



Level 1, 457 Upper Edward Street, Brisbane QLD 4000

Email: [info@rtbu.com.au](mailto:info@rtbu.com.au) • Website: [www.rtbu.com.au](http://www.rtbu.com.au)

Phone: 3839 4988 • Rail: 81 2423

4 July 2014

Dear Member,

## QR Bargaining

### Meetings this week

This week saw bargaining for Administrative, Supervisory, Professional and Technical (AS/PT) employees.

This area is traditionally a difficult one to raise cost savings given the already flexible nature of the work that is covered. Consequently, the proposals from the employer often simply amount to a reduction in conditions in return for a pay increase.

In this instance Your Union has attempted to put on the table some innovative solutions that allow for some value to be provided for QR without resorting to merely removing conditions that members currently enjoy.

The proposal is around how current corporate knowledge can be properly captured in the context of an ageing industry where long term workers are retiring at a greater rate than they are replaced. Unions have agreed to provide further information on how this be practically implemented and your representatives will be working on a proposal in the near future.

Beyond this proposal there were some clauses that were agreed and several more that required further information to allow for greater consideration.

### Next week

ASPT meetings are now on hold while the next group comes together to consider area specific matters.

Next week the meeting is with QR and rail union officials to review the progress of negotiations so far and plot out the next bargaining meetings beyond those already set.

We will report back on progress as it occurs.

### General

Members in this area, like all other areas have indicated clearly through all avenues of feedback that the critical issue in this round of bargaining is maintaining as many current protections as possible. Despite the obstacles, unions will be working hard to maintain protections which have stood up for many years.

There are very few examples where an employer has not only had the normal power over their workforce but also the capacity to make laws to reinforce that power with no effective review, as has been the case in Qld since the last election.

If you're angry about the arrogant changes to your job security and other conditions of employment by legislation etc – you have a right to be. Campbell Newman said he was someone who was to be trusted – that no one would be worse off if he was elected. If ever there was a broken promise – it's that one.

If you're angry enough to do something, consider signing up at <http://standforqld.com.au> and take part in the Queensland Council of Union's campaign.

### Unity is Strength

Owen Doogan  
State Secretary  
Queensland Branch