



Queensland Branch

Bus Circular

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Dear Member,

Bus E-News: EBA Bargaining Update 15

The combined unions met with the new BCC negotiating team this week in an attempt to make progress toward a new agreement as quickly as possible.

Items on the agenda were Contingent Labour, Heat Fatigue and Industrial Relations training for delegates.

Contingent Labour (Casual/Temporary Workers)

Unions are affected in different ways by Council's use of non-permanent workers. All agree that the number of casuals, temporary workers and agency contractors is too high and that the path to a permanent position for these workers is often more difficult than it should be, especially if they have been doing the same job for a number of years.

A clause was tabled to be added to what we had already presented to cover the use of agency contractors. The clause covers consultation, wages and conditions, dispute resolution and job security for permanent employees while contractors are engaged. A template accompanies the clause to assist Council in considering alternatives to contracting.

Heat Fatigue

Unions are looking at working with Council to develop a policy on heat fatigue. This will be developed within three months of the new agreement being signed off and all Unions will be invited to participate.

Industrial Relations Training Leave

We are working to develop an agreement that suits the requirements of all unions. Some unions need more than others so it's not a case of one size fits all. All unions agree that the current arrangements are inadequate and that something workable has to be developed and be included in the new agreement.

Dates for meetings have been set into May, with the next to be held Tuesday, 21 March.

As always, please see your depot delegate for the most up to date news on EBA negotiations.

Unity is Strength

Tom Brown

Secretary, Tram and Bus Division