

# ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS

## 2017.



Volume 1 Number 4

20<sup>th</sup> April 2017

So far our negotiations have gone to the extent of Airservices Australia presenting us with a list of proposals for new clauses in our proposed new agreement. They have stated that in their view these proposed clauses form the basis of a draft of our new agreement.

Your Branch Executive and your Branch Committee of Management [BCOM] have been considering the proposals and drafting counter proposals. I am sure you appreciate this is very time consuming and difficult as the wording in Airservices' proposed clauses must be carefully scrutinised to be certain there are no traps or unintended consequences with the proposals.

We now have Airservices' proposal for all parts of the new agreement and are working our way through them and developing counter proposals or just rejecting their proposals and maintaining, as directed by you, the members, the status quo.

We are currently dealing with the most contentious areas of the agreement, hours of duty and rostering, Leave and remuneration. Airservices have indicated that they have an issue with the cat 10 allowance in its current form but so far have not elaborated or tabled any proposal in regard to changes with this allowance.

In regard to expense related allowances air services are proposing to revert to relevant ATO determinations. This requires us to do a comparison between current allowance arrangements and moving to the allowances contained in taxation office the terminations to properly assess the implications of this proposal.

Branch Executive members have been visiting crews on shift at stations in the locations where negotiations are being conducted. Members, without exception, reiterate to the Executive that the most important thing in these negotiations is the protection and maintenance of current conditions of employment. This includes consultation and workplace delegates' rights. The maintenance of current conditions was the number one issue our survey of members and also in individual members' emails received by us. Consequently, this is our primary objective in these negotiations.

Your union's position in these negotiations is that nothing is agreed until everything is agreed. In this context please continue to send to the Branch Secretary any thoughts or issues you have on any of your current working conditions

At the meetings we are having with members at stations we are regularly asked about protected industrial action and what it means. We will be issuing an information sheet to members on this subject.

In the meantime, if you have any questions on issues relating to the current negotiations please do not hesitate to channel them to the Branch Executive via your Organizers and BCOM delegates.

In Unity  
Henry Lawrence  
Branch Secretary.