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Sydney Trains Managers revisit 'Informal Discussions'

Members have advised that management are increasing their use of 'private chats' or 'informal interviews' within the workplace.

The RTBU advises member's that they need to be aware that 'private chats' aren't usually private nor treated with confidentiality. At the very least, the manager will make a file note which could be used against you in the future.

In situations where members will be formally interviewed, the evidence produced and answers given can have a profound consequence for the person being interviewed or others involved in the investigation process.

As such, the RTBU advise that participation in any interview (formal or informal) be taken seriously with the appropriate amount of preparation. When notified about an interview the RTBU recommends the following:

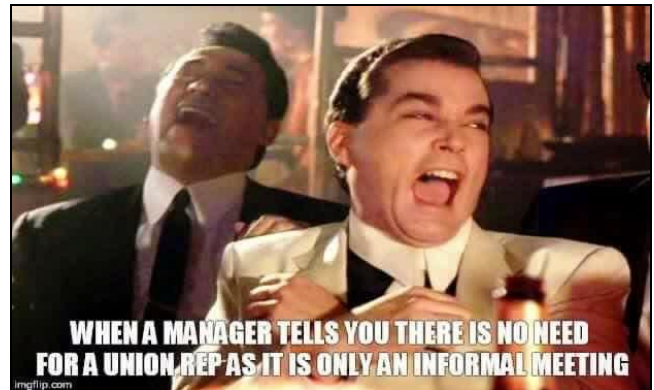
Formal Interview:

1. Request written advice of what the interview is about, where and when the interview is to take place.
2. Contact your Union Delegate or Organiser.
3. Ensure that you understand the process. The RTBU has a fact sheet available to any Member, Activist or Delegate.
4. Take a support person, Delegate or Organiser with you to the interview. Ensure that your Support Person, Delegate or Organiser take notes during the interview. This will free you up to focus on your answers.

Informal Interview:

1. Ensure you have a copy of the RTBU fact sheet and understand your rights.
2. Inform the manager that you want a support person. If this is refused, contact your Union Delegate or Organiser.
3. Ensure that your support person takes notes during the interview.

Never forget, your job could depend on it!



New Health Assessments Provider

Sydney Trains and NSW Trains have contracted a new health provider to conduct medicals. There have been a number of reported problems with the new provider which include reports being delayed or misplaced and member's being given bills after attending mandated medicals. The RTBU is advising members not to pay any costs for mandated medicals.

If this has happened to you, contact your manager and your RTBU Delegate as soon as practical.

Site Visits

Jonathan Parker will be visiting all the Maintenance Network Bases for "get to know you" sessions.

In addition, Jonathan will be giving you updates on what is being planned in for the future in infrastructure.

This is a great opportunity to meet Jonathan and inform him of any concerns you may have or questions you wish answered.

Jonathan has recently visited Wollongong where there was a great meeting with members. Jonathan is looking forward to catching up with you all soon.

In the mean time you can contact Jonathan in the following ways:

Mobile: 0418 166 742
 Email: infrastructure@rtbu-nsw.asn.au
 Landline: 02 9264 2511

Insurance

During the 2014 Sydney and NSW Trains Enterprise Agreement bargaining process, a big victory for the Combined Rail Unions was to get an agreement from Sydney Trains and NSW Trains to investigate how Journey Cover Insurance could be provided for employees. Union representatives have been working for many months with the project team to deliver a proposal to take to our members which would offer them journey cover insurance at a very low cost.

The Proposal

The proposal at this stage for the 'Employee Funded Journey Accident Insurance' developed by the Working Party would cost employees no more than \$2.20 per week – provided 5,000 employees across NSW and Sydney Trains take up the insurance.

Here are the summarised details of the proposal:

- Non-Medicare Medical Expenses - 100% of the actual amount incurred up to \$3,000
 - In the event of accidental death or permanent total disablement, following an injury sustained in an accident, a lump payment will be paid - Two times salary up to a maximum of \$200,000
 - Weekly injury benefits – 90% of your average weekly income:
 - up to a maximum of \$1,800 per week, with no waiting period, payable up to the maximum benefit period of 156 weeks.
 - Cover up to the age of 75 years

For the Working Party to progress this proposal, we would need at least 5,000 employees to express their interest in taking up the insurance, it should also be noted that the more people we have involved the better position we will be in to negotiate a cost reduction.

Sydney Trains and NSW Trains have a online survey running currently. The RTBU strongly recommend that members register their interest in this initiative that fought for in your EA.

If you have any issues with accessing the online survey you can email ea2014@transport.nsw.gov.au and put 'Yes' or 'No' in the subject line.

If you have any questions please contact your local Delegate or the RTBU office.

Picnic Tickets



It's this time of the year again, where members can purchase a picnic ticket and spend a day with family to relax whilst being paid. However, without the support from the members the picnic day will just become a memory.

Members can show support by purchasing a "Picnic Ticket". This provides the financial support to the various picnic committees to allow them to continue to operate.

The added bonus of course is for member's who purchase a picnic ticket will get a day off on full pay.

It is worth noting that employees in other organizations have lost or do not have this condition of employment. The message is if we don't use it we run the risk of losing it.

Remember the Picnic Day is your day so support it by buying your ticket.

If you are unsure of locations of where to buy your ticket contact your local Delegate or the RTBU office.