



Nurses • Midwives • Mental Health Nurses
Respect our work.

Public Sector EBA Update No 2 - 11 October 2011

Public sector nurses, midwives and mental health nurses

Victorian Public sector nurses, midwives and mental health nurses statewide EBA meeting

(includes public sector nurses employed in the acute and aged care sector, mental health services and stand-alone community health centres)

This meeting for public sector nurses, midwives and mental health nurses from across Victoria's public health system will provide a report back on the progress of negotiations and will vote on what course of action to take to further their claims. The public sector nurses' and midwives' and public sector mental health nurses' agreements expire on 1 November 2011.

Wednesday 12 October 2011

2pm - 3.30pm

Dallas Brooks Centre

Corner of Eades Street and Victoria Parade, East Melbourne (access from Victoria Parade only)

Buses have been booked to bring members to the meeting. Bus departure times www.tiny.cc/busschedule

Victorian Government list of demands against nurses and midwives and mental health nurses

As public sector negotiations progress the ANF has received the Victorian Government's list of demands against public sector nurses and midwives and public sector mental health nurses.

Victoria currently has a healthy nursing and midwifery workforce and a unique low vacancy rate thanks to initiatives implemented over the past decade such as mandated minimum nurse patient ratios, a stable 8:8:10 roster and double handover time.

The Victorian Government's demands will send the professions back 40 years and are a recipe to create a critical nurse and midwife shortage. Unfortunately the list will remind many experienced nurses and midwives of their earlier careers in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s. Please discuss the demands with younger nurses and midwives at your workplace about what these changes would mean for their working life and their patients.

Read the ANF summary of the Victorian Government's demands against public sector nurses and midwives www.tiny.cc/govsummary

Read the ANF summary of the Victorian Government's demands against public sector mental health nurses www.tiny.cc/mhgovsummary

Read the original Government/Victorian Hospitals' Industrial Association claims www.tiny.cc/govclaim

These demands will be further discussed at the Statewide Public Sector ANF members meeting tomorrow (Wednesday 12 October 2011) at Dallas Brooks Centre, East Melbourne, from 2pm to 3.30pm.

It is really important that you attend this meeting to hear how negotiations are progressing and vote on what course of action to take to further your claims.

Fair Work Australia approves protected action ballot – all members need to vote and vote YES.

ANF anticipates that the Australian Electoral Commission will start sending protected action ballot papers to general public sector members from Friday 21 October 2011. It is important that all members vote in this ballot and that all members vote YES in this ballot. You will not be voting to take industrial action, you will only be voting to have the option to take protected industrial in the future.

ANF's secret ballot application to enable protected industrial action in the future was approved by Fair Work Australia Commissioner Anne Gooley on Friday 7 October 2011.

Parts of the ballot application were unsuccessfully opposed by the employers. The employers argued ANF should be ordered to give seven days notice before commencing some of our industrial action options (e.g. bed closures, redeployment of staff) when the legislation says three days is normally enough notice. Thank you to those members who responded to ANF's call via email and Facebook and provided information for the Fair Work Australia hearings. Commissioner Gooley rejected the employers' arguments except in relation to stop work meetings. Read the transcript of the proceedings www.tiny.cc/fwatran

The secret protected action ballot Orders are for one ballot of nurses and midwives employed in the workplaces covered by the Single Interest Employer Authorisation (SIEA) and separate ballots for those that the Government has excluded. This means there will be individual ballots for each of the stand-alone community health services, Tweddle Child and Family Health Service, Queen Elizabeth Centre, Red Cliffs Community and Aged Care Services Inc. (Jacaranda Village), Darlingford Upper Goulburn Nursing Home, Ballarat District Nursing and Health Care, Koroit Health Services, Lyndoch, Mallacoota Health and Support Services and Indigo North Health Inc.

Mental health services are also subject to individual facility ballot orders, although ANF anticipates that a Single Interest Employer Authorisation (SIEA) will be sought by these employers.

The ballot Orders require employers to post notices advising affected employees of the ballot orders, and the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) will require lists of potential voters from both the ANF and the relevant employer.

Are your contact and workplace details up to date?

To ensure you receive information about the negotiations and members meetings please update your member contact and workplace details with the ANF membership department and encourage your colleagues to do the same. It is really important ANF has your home email address and your mobile phone number. To identify you we also need your correct workplace.

It is easy to update your details using the online form at www.tiny.cc/anfupdate or emailing membership@anfvic.asn.au with 'member details update' in the subject line and include your member number, date of birth, workplace, personal email address, work email address and mobile phone number.

These EBA updates for public sector nurses, midwives and mental health nurses are also available on the ANF (Vic Branch) website. If you are an ANF Job Rep please download and print the EBA update and make copies for your ward.

You have received this email because ANF has your home email address and our membership records indicate that you work in the public sector. Please forward this information on to your colleagues and encourage them to update their ANF membership contact and workplace details by clicking on the online update form.