

MEA BARGAINING

UPDATE 1

It is time to negotiate a new Multiple Enterprise Agreement (MEA) to secure the wages and conditions for ACT SACS Employees. The Current ACT Multiple Business Agreement (MBA) that many of you are employed under has now expired. As mentioned in SACS ACT Special edition 1, June 2009 the ACT SACS Award will be going, and being replaced by a less extensive modern Award in January 2010.

WE MUST SECURE YOUR WAGES AND CONDITIONS NOW!

What Happens Now?

We are now beginning the process to negotiate a new Multiple Enterprise Agreement (MEA) under the Fair Work Act. A number of new organisations have expressed an interest in now joining the MEA. This means that the new MEA will be stronger in becoming the industry standard for wages and conditions in the community sector.

The new MEA will seek to do a number of things

- 1. Secure your wages and conditions**
- 2. Lock in a pay increase of 3.15% backdated to 1 July 2009**
- 3. Return classifications of Grade 5 and above that were frozen in a previous ACT SACS Award decision.**
- 4. Return the right to be consulted during workplace change**
- 5. Give employees more rights to be consulted regarding other workplace matters including OH&S and Joint consultative committees**
- 6. Provide fairer leave provisions for circumstances such as blood donors leave, Aboriginal custom and Traditional Law, cultural leave and Leave without Pay.**

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SACSNEWS

SPECIAL EDITION

There will be an ASU and ACTCOSS joint forum about joining the MEA for both employer and employee representatives this month. The details for the forum are:

Wednesday 22nd July, 2009, 2:00pm – 4:30pm
Room 6, Griffin Centre, Genge Street, Canberra City
RSVP: Natalie Lang on 1300 784 278 or email natalie@asu.org.au

This forum will be for organisations that are either party to the current ACT Multiple Business Agreement (MBA) or have expressed that they are interested and ready to enter into the new 2009 Multiple Enterprise Agreement. Below are the two lists of employers. We would like to have both an employer and employee representative from each of these organisations in attendance at the forum.

Current MBA Employer

ACTCOSS
Youth Coalition
Parentline
Mental Illness Education ACT
Woden Community Services
Noah's Ark Resource Centre
Welfare rights and Legal Centre
National Association of Community
Legal Centres
Citizens Advice Bureau
Beryl Women Inc
Canberra Men's Centre

Employers Who May be Joining the MEA

✓ Anglicare Canberra Goulburn
✓ Advocacy for Inclusion
✓ ACT P&C Council
✓ Mental Health Community Coalition
✓ Mental Health Consumer Network
Griffin Centre ?
✓ ACT Shelter
PANDSI ?
Tenants Advice Service ?
Pegasus ACT ?
Conflict Resolution Service ?
✓ Companion House

What You Need To Do

This New MEA will not happen without member involvement. You need to act now to secure your wages and conditions. It is vital that members in every workplace are represented in this process and at the MEA forum. Natalie Lang will be contacting your workplace delegate but every member needs to do the following:

- Join the ASU
- Encourage others in your workplace to join the ASU
- Hold a union meeting in your workplace to endorse a resolution
- Calling on your employer to join the MEA and
- Instructing the ASU that employees in your workplace wish to join the MEA

Contact your organiser Natalie Lang immediately to assist you with arranging a workplace meeting

Ensure that members in your workplace are represented at the MEA forum on 22nd July 2009. Elect a delegate to attend the forum on behalf of your workplace.

If you need assistance in arranging this or having your member representative released to attend the forum please contact **Natalie Lang immediately on 1300 784 278 or email natalie@asu.org.au**