



EMPLOYMENT AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS MANAGEMENT CONSULTING AND TRAINING

the erBuzz

17 Nov – Whitireia settles

TEU members have settled a collective agreement at a polytechnic that was formerly part of the old ITP MECA. The Whitireia New Zealand Collective Agreement was ratified with 98 percent in favour of the new agreement. Union members and the polytechnic have agreed to a two year term with a pay rise of 2% and a \$1500 lump sum payment pro rata for the first year, 2% for the second and duty hours will change to 37.5 hours a week.

18 Nov – Delegates to recommend DHB offer to members

Delegates at the senior doctors union conference today have voted to recommend a collective agreement settlement, negotiated with the 20 district health boards, to their members in a postal ballot. They believe that this settlement might help with the recruitment of more New Zealand trained doctors looking for their first specialist position in public hospitals, but it will not solve our hospital specialist workforce crisis.

22 Nov - TEU Members Accept New CPIT Collective

Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology and Tertiary Education Union (TEU) members at CPIT have agreed a new collective employment agreement following negotiations and mediation between TEU representatives and CPIT.

3 Dec – Hundreds gather to support Qantas workers

Hundreds of people gathered outside the Australian Labor Party headquarters in support of the Qantas workers. Following the 21 days of talks that they were instructed to have as a result

of the lockout; Qantas, the Transport Workers Union, the engineers' and pilots' unions must now reach an agreement through binding arbitration.

6 Dec – Meat workers apply for facilitated bargaining

The New Zealand Meat Workers Union filed for facilitation services from the Employment Relations Authority on Friday, and urges ANZCO/CMP to come to the table and work with facilitators to resolve this dispute. 111 workers have been locked out for over 6 weeks.

13 Dec – Biggest strike in a generation

Up to two million public sector workers in Britain have staged a one-day walkout in a row over pensions. The action had a severe impact on schools and services, but disruption was minimal at border controls. Unions claimed the strike, which saw thousands of hospital operations cancelled and caused delays at British airports, was the biggest industrial action in the UK for more than 30 years. Employees responsible for delivering many of Britain's public services are angry over plans to raise their retirement age to 67 and force workers to increase their monthly pension contributions.

13 Dec – Rest home workers strike

Hundreds of nurses, caregivers and service workers from 20 Radius facilities around the country attended stopwork meetings and took to the streets in protest for two hours yesterday afternoon. These workers who are members of the NZ Nurses Organisation and the SFWU are paid on average between \$13 and \$14 an hour, up to a maximum of \$14.60 per hour. Radius have offered a 1.72% increase for this year. Some of the residents took to the streets in support of the workers.

13 Dec – CTU President denied entry to Fiji

The Council of Trade Union president Helen Kelly and a Union delegation from Australia have been denied entry into Fiji. They were on a fact-finding mission following allegations unionists were being targeted by the military regime. He is quoted as saying he delegation was not welcome in the country because of their lack of integrity and credibility and their pre-conceived ideas about Fiji.

14 Dec – Port of Auckland industrial action continues

Maritime Union of NZ's 327 workers at the Port of Auckland have held three weekend strikes and been locked out for a further two days. The union has accused the company of trying to intimidate workers by sending threatening letters to their homes. There are two further strikes planned – one before Christmas and one on Christmas Day.

2012 Workshops

Negotiators Toolkit 2012

- 29 February 2012, 8.30am – 12.30pm, The Rendezvous, Auckland

Tough local and global economic conditions and a government pushing for employment policy change will further polarise the negotiating parties. This key half-day technical seminar will give Senior Executives, Human Resources professionals, Employment Relations specialists, operational and line managers a highly practical overview of what to expect in their employment agreement negotiations in 2012.

Negotiating with Unions

- 21 & 22 March, The Stamford Plaza, Auckland
- 9 & 10 May, The Museum Hotel, Wellington

CEA negotiations for early 2012 will be influenced by government/union tension. Key issues – the growing NZ/AUS wage disparity, \$15 minimum wage, increased KiwiSaver costs and employee/union expectations of a minimum 4% wage increase.



This is the last edition of the erBUZZ for 2011 – we will resume again at the beginning of February.

Adelhelm & Associates offices will be closed from Thursday December 22nd and reopen again on Monday January 9th 2012.

Wishing you a safe and happy holiday period ☺