



Queensland Branch News



1st June 2011

BRANCH COMMITTEE

Members, please find hereunder important information associated with the election of the Queensland Branch Committee 2011 – 2015.

A Branch Committee meeting was held on Friday 25th March along with the normal agenda items that include Branch reports from the respective Branch officials. The major agenda item was the make up and procedures of the Branch Committee of the Queensland Branch from 1st July 2011. This process was enacted in accordance with Rule 28 e and the sub-clauses.

Rule 28 (e)

After consideration of any proposals prepared by the Branch Committee in consultation with the Branch Executive:

- (i) the number of members of the Branch Committee and their titles,*
- (ii) the method of election of the Branch Committee members, and*
- (iii) by laws as to the practices and procedures of the Branch Committee,*

shall be as approved by National Council, taking into account the number and/or sections of members in the various port, ship and other areas in the Branch and for greater equity ports, ships or other areas or sections thereof may be grouped together to achieve a more balanced representation of the membership.

The Committee will consist of the following:

North Queensland: Mackay/Bowen/Cairns/Mourilyan/Weipa/Townsville					2
Central/Queensland: Gladstone/Rockhampton					2
Patrick Terminal	2	AAT	1	Port Authority	1
DP World	2	Tugs	2	DP World Maintenance	1
POAGS	2	Bluewater	3	Patrick Maintenance	1
Patrick General	2	Offshore	3	Lines/mooring	1
Youth	1	Women	1		

Proxies will be required for all the positions.

Nominations will open on **Monday 6th June 2011** and remain open until **4pm on Friday 8th July 2011.**

Nomination forms will be available from the Union office. All members nominating for a Branch Committee position must be financial and will be required to have another financial member endorse the nomination.

Nominations must be addressed to –

Attn: Returning Officer
Queensland Branch
Maritime Union of Australia
73 Southgate Avenue
Cannon Hill Q 4170

The membership will be advised of the appointment of a Branch Returning Officer to officiate and conduct the election process, should a ballot be required. Details of the ballot procedure (if required) will be published to the membership once the nominations have closed.

Maritime Super Financial Adviser Matthew Geraghty is seeking feedback should there be an interest in undertaking a trip to Northern Ports to deal with any questions and or individual meetings with members re their Superannuation issues. Members, please advise the particular Ports where you think there is sufficient interest as Matthew is proposing a visit on 16th 17th June.

NORTH QUEENSLAND LAND COUNCIL SOCIAL COMPACT

Assistant National Secretary Ian Bray reports that in October 2010 the MUA, along with the ETU (Qld) and the CFMEU (Qld Mining Division) made history by signing onto a social compact with the NQLC. The compact marks a commitment by the parties to strengthen the relationship between Unions and indigenous communities based on mutual respect. It also provides a comprehensive process on how parties can work together to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes in terms of training and employment opportunities.

It is pleasing to announce that the hard work that was done to achieve this outcome will be rewarded. On Friday 3rd June 2011, 14 other Unions will attend a sign on ceremony at the Queensland Council of Unions building in Brisbane. They have all committed to signing onto to the compact taking the number of signatory unions in Queensland to 17.

NQLC Chairman and long time MUA member Terry O'Shane, will be present at the ceremony and will represent the NQLC along with other dignitaries from community and government. The MUA is extremely pleased with the outcome so far and will now turn its focus on working with other land councils and unions in Qld and around the country to see if we can broaden the coverage of the compact.

It should also be reported that on Tuesday 31st May, the MUA will attend a meeting with METL, QCU and representatives from Qld Government departments to discuss and work through an Indigenous training package (Maritime) to assist with the training and placement Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders into Maritime Industry occupations.

INDUSTRIAL ROUNDS

POAGS

Members engaged by POAGS would have by now received correspondence which seeks to discredit the Maritime Union of Australia and its Officials regarding progression of the Enterprise Agreement. POAGS should understand that the members - are the Union.

POAGS deliberately held up the national negotiations for 9 months during the last round of negotiations associated with a Brisbane claim that members work 210 hours more per annum for a one-off payment. POAGS are merely trotting out the same tactics used by Patrick prior to the illegal sackings of our members. Reports back to the Branch have indicated that Queensland management in addressing our members have stated that an alternate workforce will be engaged should our membership collectively decide to take Protected Action.

The MUA will continue to bargain the Log of Claims in good faith as established by the membership and ratified by the POAGS Conference.

PATRICK TERMINALS

Patrick Part A Negotiating Committee will resume negotiations with the company on Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd June. Protected Action notified has been postponed.

DP WORLD negotiations resume in Sydney on 7th – 9th June.

VAN OORD further meetings scheduled in Sydney next week to continue to progress agreement matters and Memorandum of Understand for both Hay Point and Gladstone. Meeting previously scheduled to deal with these matters was taken up with safety issues regarding Dredge 'Rotterdam'.
