

CFMEU FFPD South Australian District Newsletter Spring 2009



CFMEU FORESTRY AND FURNISHING PRODUCTS DIVISION

Union Agreements - THE ONLY WAY TO GET A PAY RISE

Award wages frozen

The Australian Fair Pay Commission has frozen the wages of 1.3 million low paid workers. In its final decision the Commission has ruled out any increase in the minimum wage.

The average award worker will lose about \$16 a week until the next wage decision is due in July 2010.

Union Agreements the Only Way to Go

The decision means that unless workers are unionised and organised at the workplace level and have a collective agreement in place, they will not receive a pay increase in the next 12 months.

Real wages of low paid workers have gone backwards since the Commission was established by the previous Liberal Government. This decision is another attack on their living

standards and underlines the need to have your workplace 100% unionised, because without the Union your pay would be frozen.

The Decision

In its 2009 general Wage-Setting Decision the Commission decided to:

- maintain the standard Federal Minimum Wage at \$14.31 per hour (\$543.78 per week); and
- maintain the adult rates of pay in Australian Pay and Classification Scales (pay scales) at their current levels.

The decision also applies to junior employees, employees to whom training arrangements apply, employees with disability casual

employees and employees receiving basic piece rates of pay.



CONTACT THE UNION ON OUR NATIONAL FREECALL NUMBER: 1800 060 556

OR VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE www.cfmeuffpd.org.au

Union Moves on Log Exports

The CFMEU FFPD has been successful in amending the national platform of the ALP at the party's National Conference in Sydney, to minimise log exports, meaning improved value adding and down-stream processing for the timber industry.

CFMEU FFPD Tasmanian District Secretary Scott McLean said these amendments will allow for the development of a comprehensive forest plantation strategy and a national review of the impact of log exports, to ensure the long term future of forest industries.

"We are working towards an end to whole log exports from Australia."

"The Union is passionate in pushing for value adding and downstream processing in Australia and improving Government engagement in the industry via a national review."

"When this policy development and industry support work is not done in an integrated way and at a national level, we get catastrophes like timber mill closures."

The Union has campaigned for some time for better Federal Government support for the industry.

These policy amendments provide a platform through which this can occur.

CATCH OF THE DAY

This member of the SA District had a great day fishing!



Union Fees from 1 November 2009

Union fees will increase by 0.30 cents per week for adult members in the timber, glass and floor covering industries.

The increase will take effect from 1 November 2009.

Union fees will remain the same for members in the furniture industry.

Industry Sector	\$ per week – Adults
Glass	\$10.30
Timber	\$10.30
Floor Covering	\$10.30
Furniture	\$8.75

Member Category	\$ per week
Life Member	\$0.00
Unemployed	\$0.00
Parental Leave	\$0.00
Supported Wage	\$1.50
Junior/Apprentice	\$3.00
Part time less than 32 hrs pw	\$4.50
Workers Compensation - no make pay	\$4.50
Workers Compensation - Full Rate	As per standard adult rates



The new submarine base facility in Port Adelaide built by CFMEU FFPD glaziers

Local News

NURSES UNION SOLIDARITY

The SA District has linked arms with the Australian Nursing Federation and provided training to two nurses union shop stewards.

The training is part of the annual Anna Stewart Memorial Fund union interchange program.

ANF shop stewards Barbara Demitriou and Sharon O'Grady

are pictured at right with SA District Organiser Mark Nicholls and Michelle Ingley Smith from the National Office.

Women members of the union can apply to be part of next year's program.

Participants will receive two weeks training and placement with other unions.



FIXING SHREIKING METAL SAWS



ECC Representatives Brenda Kester and Doug Nuske from Alody Luxaflex Blinds have been involved in improving occupational health and safety over the years.

One improvement that is a relief for everyone's ears was providing lead panels to dampen the sound of the aluminium cutting saw. The baffles reduce sound at the sides and rear of the saw. A front door mechanism is also available.

ARK'S TRIBE GATHERS

CFMEU member Ark Tribe received strong support from the union when he had to appear at Elizabeth Magistrates Court in June 2009.

All unions were present to support Ark who has been charged with failing to cooperate with the Australian Building and Construction Commission.

The ABCC is seeking 6 months jail for workers who refuse to give evidence to the Commission.

The union is supporting the campaign to abolish the ABCC.



Waste Not Want Not

Waste separation and recycling of off-cuts remains a problem for society and the industry.

At a recent SA library refurbishment, cardboard, metal, plaster, wood and plastic were all thrown in the same hopper. Lazy and unorganised is not the path to a better world and wastes money. Many factories in SA are now separating

the waste streams and are reducing their bin rotation rates saving precious dollars.

As part of waste separation all materials are either re-used or are recycled using companies that will pay for or take away the waste for free.

Boral Window Systems members are working to improve their recycling of cardboard, aluminium and timber.





*Forestry and Furnishing
Products Division*

CHECK OUT THE UNION'S NEW WEBSITE

www.cfmeuffpd.org.au



**FIRST
SUPER**

An Industry SuperFund



ABN 42 053 498 472

Where's my Super Statement?

2008-2009 ANNUAL STATEMENTS

Members' annual statements will be completed and mailed to over 80,000 members in First Super, once the Fund has finalised its annual statutory accounts and declared and applied final investment return rates.

This process will be completed around September or early October.

Investment returns for 2008/09 will unfortunately be negative for the Growth (default), High Growth and Conservative Growth options, and positive for the Capital Stable option due

to market returns.

We will provide further information on the returns with your statements.

Members who want an estimate of their account balance can do so by accessing their account through firstonline at:

http://firstsuper.com.au/online_access.htm

or by contacting our Call Centre on 1300 360 988 to request a Benefit Quote.

Please remember that this quote may change when the final rate is applied to your account.

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