

Media Release: Rail and Maritime Transport Union
Wednesday 12 December, 2012

Mass union meeting calls on Port CEO to share bonus

A mass meeting of members of the Rail and Maritime Transport Union (RMTU) a short time ago called on Lyttelton Port Company CEO Peter Davie to share his \$600,000 bonus amongst port workers.

'Today's joint meeting of the union's Lyttelton Port Branch and Canterbury Rail Branch voted unanimously in support of a resolution calling on Davie to divide the money amongst the workers at the port,' said RMTU General Secretary Wayne Butson, who was in attendance.

'The reality is that Lyttelton Port was kept operational by hundreds of people who dragged themselves away from their broken homes and their families in order to keep the flow of goods going into and out of Lyttelton,' he said.

'These men and women are amongst the many unsung heroes of the aftermath of the earthquake and to reward one man \$600,000 is morally objectionable,' he said.

'We constantly hear platitudes from employers about how their greatest asset is their staff and how a happy workforce is a productive workforce. Well, these workers are not happy and they don't feel valued when a guy in a suit gets all the recognition while they're out there night after night, in all weathers, doing difficult and dangerous work, keeping Christchurch going', he said.

'It could be a long, hot summer on the waterfront', he said.

Ends.

For more information contact:

Libi Carr, RMTU Lyttelton Branch Secretary 027 446 8779

Wayne Butson, RMTU General Secretary, 027 4962 461