

THE ACTIVIST



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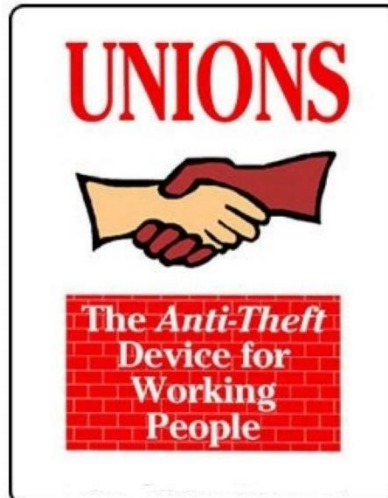
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS –

RMTU NATIONAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2023-2025 TERM

In accordance with Rule 24.6 of the Rules & Standing Orders of the Rail & Maritime Transport Union "the Union" calls for nominations from current financial members for the following position(s) on the Unions National Management Committee:

The Union is calling for nominations for the National Management Committee as follows:

- **North Island Ports Representative** (A financial member of a North Island Port Branch of the Union).
- **South Island Ports Representative** (A financial member of a South Island Port Branch of the Union).
- **Auckland Rail Representative** (A financial member of the Auckland Rail Branch).
- **North Island Rail Representative** A financial member of either the Northland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, King Country, Taranaki, Hawkes Bay and Palmerston North Rail Branches. (ALL remaining NI Rail branches excepting Auckland, Wellington and Hutt Branches).



- **Wellington Rail Representative** (A financial member of either the Wellington or Hutt Rail Branches).
- **South Island Rail Representative** (A financial member of either the Marlborough, West Coast, Canterbury, Timaru, Otago or Southland Rail Branches. All South Island Rail Branches).
- **Women's Representative** (A financial Woman member of any Branch of the Union).

At Conference 2020 a new NMC position was resolved to include a Te Kupenga Mahi nominated representative who would be s/elected by Te Kupenga Mahi. TKM has advised that the inaugural representative to this position is Ray Brown the TKM Pou Arahi to KiwiRail and a current financial member of the Union.

Nominations shall be in writing on the official NMC Nomination form and contain the signed consent of the candidate, and be proposed and seconded by financial members (Rule 1) of the Union from the correct branch and industry designation. Nomination Forms are available on the Union Website www.rmtunion.org.nz under Hot topics or from the Union's National Office by calling 04-499-2066, fax 04-471-0896 or admin@rmtunion.org.nz or your local Branch Secretary.

Correctly completed nomination forms must be received by the duly appointed Acting National Returning Officer at the

This is for the information and guidance of RMTU members only!

National Office of the Rail & Maritime Transport Union, PO Box 1103 Wellington 6140 no later than **1700 hrs 02 June 2023**. Nominations can be faxed fax 04-471-0896 or emailed to office@rmtunion.org.nz or admin@rmtunion.org.nz. An acknowledgement of receipt will be issued. If you do not receive an acknowledgement of receipt then please contact the Union to confirm our receipt of nomination by the due date.

The term of office is 2 years (Rule 24.2) and the duties are as contained in Rule 18 of the Union's Rules and Standing Orders.

For the information of members – KiwiRail employed NMC members will be appointed to an applicable KiwiRail Industrial Council upon election to NMC (eg. A Mechanical Engineer will be placed onto the Mechanical Council filling one position on that Council. The women rep will be placed into the Women rep position on a KiwiRail Council commensurate with her occupation and skill set).

For the information of members - All incumbent NMC Representatives have indicated that they will be seeking re-election apart from the North Island Ports Representative David Marden, who is stepping down after serving on the NMC since 2011.

For the information of members - Members and Branch Returning Officers are advised that in the event that there is more than one nomination for any position, a postal ballot shall be run out of the National Office by the Acting National Returning Officer.

Nominees must have their photo and a short promotional bio statement of up

to 250 words to the National Office **no later than 1700 hrs 02 June 2023**. Electronic receipt of this information is preferred and the photo in jpeg format of at least 1mb file size. Please ensure you get a receipt of acknowledgement when you provide the material. Should a candidate not provide the photo and bio by this time and date the ballot papers will be printed minus the candidate's information.

All members are urged to advise National Office if you have changed your mailing address recently. If we can't get a ballot paper to you because we do not have the correct mailing address then we cannot get you a voting form. Call RMTU 04-4992066 or alternatively update your details online www.rmtunion.org.nz or email admin@rmtunion.org.nz or office@rmtunion.org.nz



CANDIDATES ARE REMINDED THAT NOMINATIONS FOR NMC CLOSE 1700 hrs on 02 June 2023.

RMTU NATIONAL PRESIDENT – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS – RESULT

Nominations for the position of Union National President closed at 1700hrs on Friday 5th May. At the close of nominations for National President, there was only one nomination received for Mr Aubrey Wilkinson.

Aubrey Wilkinson is therefore declared elected unopposed.

Congratulations to Aubrey on his successful return to this key Union position.

The term of office is 2 years (*Rule 24.2*) and the duties are as contained in Rule 27 of the Union's Rules and Standing Orders.

RMTU STAFF CHANGES

We welcome two new staff members at the RMTU.

Matt Tait started working in the Wellington Office on April 17th as our new Receptionist/Admin Assistant.

Andy Woolhouse started the same day; Andy is the new South Island Organiser. There will be profiles of Andy and Matt in the next Transport Worker magazine.

GENERAL SECRETARY - BALLOT RESULT

The postal ballot result for General Secretary which was conducted in accordance with the Rule 42 of the Union Rules and Standing Orders are as follows:

Ballot papers issued:	5523
Returned:	1178
Total ballot return rate	21.33%
Invalid: 2	(0.17%)
Benecke, Heiner 382	(32.43%)
Valster, Todd 794	(67.48%)

Mr Todd Valster is declared elected

RELIEF GEN SEC

Karen Fletcher will be relief GS from May 20th – May 28th owing to the General Secretary Todd Valster attending the ASLEF Conference on Cardiff, Wales.

JUST AND FAIR CULTURE TRAINING - KIWIRAIL DELEGATES AND HSAT REPS

The Just Fair Culture Training is a one-day course available to KiwiRail

RMTU Delegates, HSAT Reps, Managers, HR managers.

Training is scheduled the following dates and locations. To register please get in touch with your RMTU Organiser.

Upcoming Delivery Schedule	
Location	Dates
Christchurch	13 th June
Wellington	25 th July
Whangarei	8 th August
Auckland	26 th September

KIWIRAIL MECA WAGE ROUND 2023

The KiwiRail MECA expires 30 June 2023.

We have sent our Initiation of Bargaining Notice to KiwiRail which has been acknowledge.

Remits or claims from most Rail Branches have been received in National Office.

These claims will be sorted and grouped for the RMTU Bargaining team to assess. The RMTU Bargaining team will be all of the elected Industrial Council Reps and RMTU staff that are available.

The RMTU Advocate is Todd Valster.

At this stage a date has not been set with KiwiRail to commence bargaining.



MEMBERSHIP DATABASE UPDATES

The RMTU membership database is an important tool in contacting Union Members or ensuring members are kept up to date with the latest information. We are concerned at the number of "unknown" or "return to sender" envelopes returned to National Office as part of this year's officer elections. We remind members that if you wish to exercise their rights and participate in the

decision-making aspects of the Union they should ensure they inform National Office of any change of address or contact details as soon as possible. This includes any change of designation or employer.

Branch Secretaries hold "update of membership forms" that you can post or fax in or alternatively for immediate action members are reminded to utilise the update of membership details link on our website www.rmtunion.org.nz.

For example – All national Union elected positions are up for election this year and so there may be votes conducted by mail. If we have the incorrect address info you will not get a vote as you will never receive a voting paper. Update now!

REMUTAKA TUNNEL FINALLY GETS GAS MONITORS

After years of staff suffering the effects of fume exposure whilst travelling through the Remutaka tunnel, KiwiRail has announced it will install a fixed gas monitoring system in the Remutaka Tunnel. The kits arrive in July this year. The new gas sensors will be installed throughout the 8.9km long tunnel to provide important gas information to workers who operate inside the tunnel. The Trolex manufactured sensors are already used in Otira Tunnel. It will measure Oxygen, Carbon Monoxide and diesel fumes such as Carbon Dioxide and Nitrogen Dioxide. The Union continues to push Kiwirail to install fixed mechanical ventilation to purge the tunnel of fumes to make it safer for staff and passengers.



H&S REP TRAINING KIWIRAIL- NEW PROVIDER IS COACHIO

The RMTU and KRG have agreed on a new training provider for Health and Safety Rep training following the closure of Worksafe Reps. 'Coachio' is the name of the new provider, they offer a three year development programme for health and safety reps. The courses will be tailored to KiwiRail using rail specific case studies. Importantly they provide the unit standard 29315 which enables HSR's to issue PIN notices and carry out other legal functions under the Health and safety at Work Act. There are currently about 200 KiwiRail H&S reps who are waiting for stage 1 or 2 H&S Rep training. HSAT teams will receive more information shortly.

SAFEGUARD AWARD FINALIST- NANDOR MRAZ

The RMTU is proud that Union Delegate and H&S Rep- Mechanical Engineer Nandor Mraz has been nominated as one of three finalists for the prestigious Representative Award at the National Safeguard Awards. The award recognises Nandor's effort to work with KiwiRail to address the risk of working in a confined space whilst working inside the DL radiator room. The winner of the award will be announced at the gala dinner in Auckland on 20th June.

PORT NELSON

STEVEDORES ARRIVE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

After nine months of intensive work using an HPHE approach to problem solving, Port Nelson is trialing a new roster for the stevedores. Using Scott Camlin to

facilitate a working group made up of RMTU delegates and Company representatives, a roster has been developed to try and serve the interests of the workers and the company equally. With regular reviews of the roster performance and input from the work force we all expect a good outcome. This means that a work force who has no certainty of when they are working for over 100 years will finally know when they are working and not working.

PORT MARLBOROUGH INITIATES

Bargaining has been initiated at Port Marlborough, an interesting and unique port with a different working model to other ports. With a structure based around marinas, ferry and log operations, they have also started using HPHE to plan for future requirements around Interislander development and the new ferry terminal that is proposed for Picton. With cruise ship season finished for this summer planning is under way to create a resilient system around safe line handling in time for the next cruise ship season next summer.

PORT TARANAKI NEGOTIATIONS

Port Taranaki delegates are locked in negotiations with the company over the renewal of the collective agreement. A challenging negotiation with another unique smaller port, having its business revolving around the fossil fuel industry and logs. Port Taranaki are looking to diversify into other forms of energy like off shore wind farms and are looking to transition over time. RMTU and PTL are also embarking on a HPHE project around creating efficiencies in the port.

C3 NELSON INITIATES

Bargaining is soon to get underway with renewal of the C3 CA in Nelson. With C3 having most of the log volume in the top

of the south they will be in a strong position to make a generous offer to our members in this area. We have growing membership in this area and our members have strong views on where they feel negotiations should go, watch this space.

CENTREPORT MUCA UNDERWAY

RMTU, MUNZ and Etu have initiated bargaining with Centreport for renewal of their CA. Hopefully the company will not overly drag out negotiations as they did last year. A call for remits has gone out and we are looking forward to robust discussion over key issues that our members face in our capital city. With a key issue for all being the cost of living, an issue that is consistent across work force at the moment as we all pay more for mortgages, fuel and groceries.

TRANSDEV PAYROLL ISSUES TO THE FORE

Transdev delegates have taken a front foot approach to payroll issues by getting the company to agree to a joint RMTU/Transdev help desk to help with payroll issues. A new payroll system, confusing pay slips and a myriad of slip ups have frustrated the members and created a loss of faith in the company. Recent issues with incorrect back pays and mistakes with deductions have caused many headaches. Good work from the delegates to be proactive and find solutions.

**Remember – be
Safe at all
times!**