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No 2 – 6 April 2011

2011 ACT DET Education Support Staff Enterprise Agreement Negotiations

Bargaining has commenced with Chief Minister's Department as part of the Single Bargaining Unit for a new ACT Public Sector Common Core.

Bargaining Parameters:

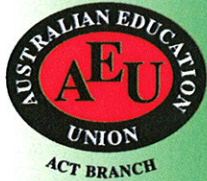
The Chief Minister's Department (CMD) advised bargaining representatives on 4 March that the whole of Government offer was (a) 2.5% per annum wage increase, (b) an Agreement of 2 years duration, and (c) the removal of a range of conditions from Agreements and place them in either the Public Sector Management Act (PSMA) or the Standards that provide more detail for implementation of PSMA provisions.

Members may have seen a Whole of Government email of 4/3/11 that provided this information.

On 25 March CMD advised the bargaining representatives in writing that the offer had changed; (a) and (b) remained, but a replacement (c) proposed a "rollover" of common terms and conditions and agency schedules for all general clerical agreements with plans to amend various elements of the agreements put aside.

The changed offer is conditional on the bargaining representatives agreeing not to bring forward additional claims, either for common terms or through agency schedule negotiations. As well, the offer requires bargaining agents to agree to the inclusion in the Agreement of a clause committing to work towards the implementation of Government agreed outcomes arising from the Hawke Review – which recommendations and what is to be implemented are unknown at this time.

Members may have seen a Whole of Government email on 29/3/11 that described the new offer. While the general union response is still being determined, the AEU's assessment is that the CMD proposals to date will not assist in achieving a settlement.



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DET Agreement – Non-Teaching Staff:

No discussions have occurred for the Agency specific part of the DET Staff Agreement at this time.

Members are encouraged to contact our Organisers at the Union office to convey your views about the Government offer.

WHAT CAN YOU DO NOW TO SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN?

The ACT Government is finalising the 2011/12 ACT Budget now! Email Barr@act.gov.au, Stanhope@act.gov.au, Gallagher@act.gov.au and any other ACT politicians of your choice to demand adequate funding in the Budget for education support staff salaries and working conditions.

As negotiations continue members will be kept informed of progress through AEU e-bulletins and are encouraged to participate in each AEU Sub-Branch and Branch Council.

Penny Gilmour
Branch Secretary

6 April 2011