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Friday 31, July 2009

prpc094bhc

**Professional Rates of Pay Campaign**



**CHAPTER BRIEFING No. 11**

**Support for Public Sector Colleagues in the Campaign for Professional Wages Teachers to Rally on 5 August**

Dear Colleagues

On Wednesday 5 August at 4pm, Queensland Teachers Union (QTU) members will be holding a major rally outside Parliament House in Brisbane to denounce the Queensland government's refusal to meet professional rates of pay in collective negotiations. A fact sheet outlining the public sector bargaining is attached.

Throughout this campaign, QIEU and QTU members have resolved to jointly collaborate to achieve teachers' wages that are consistent with interstate benchmarks.

Presently, QIEU members in Catholic schools are considering applying to Fair Work Australia so they can hold a secret ballot to determine appropriate protected action if employing authorities fail to endorse in substance professional rates of pay by mid August.

Members in Lutheran schools, have overwhelmingly endorsed motions rejecting the state government sector wage offer and have sought a commitment from their employer that professional rates of pay would be agreed in this round of negotiations.

Central Queensland public sector colleagues from 21 schools are planning action early next month also.

It is clear QIEU and QTU members are determined to achieve national wage benchmarks and our support at the rally is needed.

**Professional rates of pay need to be achieved**

It is appropriate for QIEU members to give consideration to supporting our QTU colleagues in what is a shared campaign for professional rates of pay.

In our current collective bargaining negotiations, non-government employees have consistently endorsed a claim for professional rates of pay that meet interstate benchmarks.

Employing authorities in non-government sectors also have had the opportunity to do what is best for their teachers, yet most have failed to do so.

Queensland cannot afford to do this.

**A collective voice needed**

Members are asked to show their support in the campaign for professional wages by attending the rally outside Parliament House in Brisbane next Wednesday, at 4:00pm for a 4:30pm start. For non-metropolitan members please show your support by sending a faxback to the Premier of Queensland. Metropolitan members can forward this faxback to the Premier also.

In achieving professional rates of pay, the strong collective voice of Queensland teachers will continue to be heard.

Kind regards

**TERRY BURKE**  
GENERAL SECRETARY



## CHAPTER FAX BACK

Friday 31 July 2009

### Support for Professional Rates of Pay Campaign

Metropolitan members, please give your support to the Professional Rates of Pay Campaign by attending the teachers' rally next Wednesday 5 August 2009 at 4:00pm.

School Name: .....

Town/Suburb: .....

The Chapter at \_\_\_\_\_ will be in attendance at the rally for professional rates of pay at Parliament House Brisbane on Wednesday 5 August 2009 at 4pm.

**PLEASE FAX BACK TO**

**QIEU**

**ON FAX NUMBER (07) 3839 7021**

**By 4:00pm, Tuesday 4 August 2009**

Non-metropolitan members, please give your support to the Professional Rates of Pay Campaign by sending a fax to the Premier of Queensland.

School Name: .....

Town/Suburb: .....

The Chapter at \_\_\_\_\_ supports the QTU in their campaign on Wednesday 5 August 2009 at the rally held in Brisbane, to achieve professional rates of pay and calls upon the Queensland government to commit to paying established interstate benchmarks.

**PLEASE FAX TO**

**THE PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND**

**MS ANNA BLIGH**

**(07) 3221 3631**

**By 4:00pm, Tuesday 4 August 2009**



## Professional Rates of Pay

# FACT SHEET 6

## Public Sector Bargaining

Friday 31 July 2009

### KEY ISSUES

- *QIEU and QTU join together to achieve professional rates of pay*
- *It is imperative to have remuneration that attracts the best and brightest to the education profession*
- *Employers, government and non-government, should act to ensure that Queensland teachers are remunerated at levels commensurate with interstate benchmarks*

### ACTION

- *Show your support in the joint campaign for professional rates of pay by attending the rally outside Parliament House Brisbane, Wednesday 5 August 2009 at 4:00pm*

### CONTACTS

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Although the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission (QIRC) ordered that the Queensland Teachers' Union (QTU) member strike planned for 5 August 2009 be cancelled, their campaign for professional rates of pay continues.

The QIRC did not ban further strike action but imposed a notification period of seven clear days (compared with the three working days contained in the legislation) on further strike action.

Although the QTU had notified the Queensland Education Department and the QIRC on 27 July 2009 of the planned state-wide action at the QIRC hearing, the decision cited, "mixed messages in the media," as not giving the department the newly required seven days notice.

The QTU have condemned the Queensland government's 'cynical manipulation' of the state's industrial relations system and are determined that the professional rates of pay campaign will run until teachers are paid interstate benchmarks.

The QIRC also decided that the ban on the National Partnership Agreements (NPA's) placed at risk Commonwealth funding and ordered that this ban be removed.

The Union's other work bans remain in place.

The QIRC also made a recommendation to attempt to resolve the dispute:

- the parties agree to arbitration of the dispute;
- there be an interim wage increase of not more than 4% effective from 1 July;

subject to:

- the parties attempt to narrow the issues in dispute for the arbitration; and
- the parties immediately commit to the implementation of the NPAs.

Implementation of the QIRC recommendation requires the agreement of both the QTU and the Government.

Central Queensland public sector colleagues from 21 schools are taking action on August 6 and 7.

Our joint campaign continues.