



SIGNAL SEVEN

September 25 2020

ACT Legislative Assembly Election 2020

The Branch Committee of Management met today by Teleconference, and unanimously resolved as follows:

“That in respect of the 2020 ACT Legislative Assembly Election BCOM authorise the preparation and distribution of a leaflet based on the enterprise bargaining campaign leaflet, setting out the items agreed to by the Barr Government, and stating that the 2 MLAs who worked hardest to deliver this outcome were Rebecca Cody (Murrumbidgee) and Mick Gentleman (Brindabella). BCOM further resolves to seek members to volunteer to distribute this material in cooperation with those 2 candidates in the lead up to the election.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Members will recall that at the last ACT election in 2016, we campaigned extensively and obtained commitments from most independents, minor parties, the Greens and both Liberal and Labor.

This year, our focus has been heavily on finalising our enterprise agreement, and obtaining the necessary political support to get the ACT Government to commit to fund it. This has been an enormous undertaking, but it has resulted in a commitment to the single largest expansion in the fire service since its inception including the following:

- Net growth of 99 additional firefighters;
- 2 new fire stations;
- Skills maintenance;
- Health and wellbeing initiative;
- Restructured allowances;

It will come as no surprise to members that Bec Cody (Murrumbidgee) worked throughout this term to secure the support of the Barr Government to our agreement. It will surprise some members that Mick Gentleman (Brindabella) has been singled out as a key supporter: after all, at the last election we clashed with him and opposed him. So what has changed?

The reality is that the strength of our arguments turned the Minister and his staff around, to the extent that he publicly stated that what we were seeking was reasonable, and the he would argue strongly for it in Cabinet. Argue he did, and what’s more he succeeded. Credit where credit is due. The BCOM considered that it would be remiss to not acknowledge those who worked hard to get our enterprise agreement across the line: in campaigning. One can send no message stronger than supporting those who support you and in so doing, aim to secure that support into the future.

In passing the resolution today, unanimously, the BCOM stopped short of urging a vote for a particular party or candidate. The BCOM decided to publicise the commitment made by the Barr Government to our enterprise agreement, and to state publicly who worked hard to secure this outcome: the public can decide for themselves what to do with that information.

Commencing from next week, we will be seeking volunteers to spread the message about what our agreement will deliver for the Canberra community. The BCOM is hopeful that members will support this initiative, and that some fresh faces will be involved alongside the “usual suspects”. Every member and the whole Canberra community will benefit from what has been agreed. Let’s cement that agreement in front of the ACT public, and lay a foundation for the next terms of government and the next enterprise agreement.

As things stand, we are seeking a minimum of 2 volunteers to fill each of the time slots listed below:

Murrumbidgee

Date	Time	Place
Wednesday 30 September	4.30 - 6 pm	Chapman Shops
Thursday 1 October	4.30 - 6 pm	Rivett Shops
Saturday 3 October	10 am – 11.30 am	Kambah Shops
Sunday 4 October	10 am – 11.30 am	Mawson Shops
Tuesday 6 October	4.30 - 6 pm	Waramanga Shops
Wednesday 7 October	4.30 - 6 pm	Deakin Shops
Thursday 8 October	4.30 - 6 pm	Yarralumla Shops
Saturday 10 October	10 am – 11.30 am	Curtin Shops
Sunday 11 October	10 am – 11.30 am	Cooleman Court
Tuesday 13 October	4.30 – 6 pm	Rivett Shops
Wednesday 14 October	4.30 – 6 pm	Cooleman Court
Thursday 15 October	4.30 – 6 pm	Mawson Shops

Brindabella

Date	Time	Place
Wednesday 30 September	3 – 5 pm	Erindale
Thursday 1 October	3 – 5 pm	Southpoint
Friday 2 October	3 – 5 pm	Chisholm
Saturday 3 October	10 am – 12 pm	Lanyon
Friday 9 October	3 – 5 pm	Southpoint
Saturday 10 October	10 am – 12 pm	Chisholm

Members are asked to email Greg McConville with the timeslot they are able to fill. secretary@ufuact.asn.au . UFU Shirts and turnout trousers will be supplied.

Strength in Unity

Authorised by Greg McConville, Secretary, UFU, A.C.T. Branch.

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