



MAJORS NEWSLETTER

June 2021

2020 was one heck of a year for all transport workers. For many of you, there was more work than ever, but with the pandemic causing havoc around Australia and the world, we were not in a strong position to negotiate new agreements and secure necessary improvements and protections for members.

In 2021 we're in a much better position. It's a crucial year in the fight to secure your futures and lock in job security, fair pay and better safety standards. We are ready to bargain from a position of strength. More than anything that means everyone sticking together, which is why we're bringing you news from right across the industry. If you're a member, make sure your mates are too. And if you're not, now's the perfect time to join the fight.

OUR ARMY IS GROWING

For a decade we've referred to the largest unionised transport companies as the "Majors," including Toll, Linfox, Startrack, TNT/FedEx and Ceva. Delegates have fought hard to align their EAs and strive for market-leading pay, superannuation, conditions and safety and have been hugely successful in achieving this.

We want to keep fighting to ensure other companies' rates and conditions are up there with the Majors. After a massive push in the last three years, Bevchain, Ron Finemore Transport and ACFS have been elevated to "Majors", with high union membership, established delegate networks and TWU HSRs elected. This has increased our unionised army by thousands of transport workers whose agreements also expire at the same time.

MAJORS WAGES | **30% ABOVE AWARD**

MAJORS SUPER | **FROM 11% TO 14.75%**



MAJORS BARGAINING HAS COMMENCED

Our industry claim for 2021 is for job security, fair pay and safety for all drivers. Specific company claims have also been served, and negotiations have commenced at Ceva, Fedex, Linfox, BevChain, Toll and StarTrack. Bargaining for ACFS will commence on May 31.

Your member-led bargaining teams are fighting hard to make sure that your priorities are reflected in negotiations.

At the same time your local fights and disputes continue. With too many around the country to list, we continue to take up issues around outside hire ports, unfair contracts, underpayments and full utilisation.



TOGETHER, WE ARE STRONGER. JOIN NOW FOR A BETTER FUTURE.

TOP 50 RETAIL CLIENTS ON NOTICE

We know that throughout the pandemic there's been a group of clients – the likes of Amazon, Aldi, Officeworks and JBHiFi - that have generated huge amounts of volume for their transport carriers, and recorded massive spikes in profit and revenue.

As a result many of you have had to work harder.

The TWU has written to the top 50 clients across retail, supermarkets, food and beverage, and agriculture, and served a claim demanding they ensure profits are passed on through fair contracts across their supply chain.

We know this can work, because we have just secured this type of deal with Coles after years of campaigning. The historic Charter establishes:

- **“gold standard” rates and conditions which would be the benchmark for all new contracts and tenders**
- **inductions across the supply chain**
- **increased visibility and auditing rights to better police shame and shonky arrangements**



There is work to do to get this running across the country, but we have won these rights and now we start enforcing them.

TOLL EXPRESS SALE TO ALLEGRO

In April it was announced that Toll Express would be sold to Allegro, and that the rest of Toll would remain with Japan post. With former Australia Post CEO Christine Holgate to take over Toll Express, we're seeking commitments on:

- **Long-term commitment to rebuild the company**
- **Maximisation of jobs and full utilisation of the existing workforce and infrastructure**
- **Fair and sustainable standards across the entirety of the Toll business**
- **Maintenance and growth of current market share**
- **Commitment to regulatory reform of the transport industry**

We'll keep you updated as we get answers to our demands.



MAJORS DELEGATES SPEAKING UP AT NATIONAL COUNCIL

Each year the TWU National Council comes together to set the strategic direction of the union, and Councillors are elected from each Branch. This year in Darwin, three Councillors from Toll and Startrack – Margaret Harvey, Corey Colbran and Matt Spring) reported on:

- **the 2021 bargaining strategy**
- **the coordinated push and unity across the eight Majors**
- **the distinct issues members face in each company including the splitting up of Toll**

The 2021 fight, endorsed by delegates across the country, was unanimously supported by Council.



WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY



28 April is Workers' Memorial Day, and this year TWU members around the country marked the sombre occasion to remember those drivers who have died at work.

The day also coincided with the five-year anniversary of the RSRT being torn down. In 2021 alone, more than 50 people have died in truck crashes. We're calling on the Federal Government to take truck driver conditions seriously. Sign the pledge:

bit.ly/TruckiePledge

Congratulations to those members around Australia who sent in photos of themselves observing a minute's silence on Workers' Memorial Day. We know some managers made this harder than others, but powerful to see members from yards from all Majors across the country standing together. We'll keep fighting for the safety of ALL drivers at work.



SENATE INQUIRY INTO ROAD TRANSPORT COMPLETE



At the TWU National Council in Darwin, WA Senator Glenn Sterle reported back on the Senate Inquiry into Road Transport, which finished at the end of April. The inquiry took place over two years, with horrific evidence given by dozens of drivers and others from the industry.

What came out of it was what many in the industry already know: we urgently need a system in place to improve standards and conditions for our truck drivers and owner drivers. **Delegates and members from around the country gave evidence and spoke up for change.**

We'll keep you updated on the recommendations from the inquiry.

ARE YOUR DETAILS UP TO DATE?

To stay in the loop with the latest on bargaining and other news, make sure your details are up to date with your branch.

As we are gearing up for fights across our Majors, now is the time to make sure we are as strong and united as possible. Whether you are a company employee, a tied owner driver, casual or labour hire or drive for a fleet, now is the time to sign up and join this fight. www.twu.com.au/join

TOGETHER, WE ARE STRONGER.
JOIN NOW FOR A BETTER FUTURE.

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