

Coronavirus risk: Union demands the closure of TAFE libraries across the state

This morning CPSU NSW staff and delegates met with TAFENSW to discuss its contingency plans for reducing the risk of exposing staff and students to the Coronavirus. We strongly pressed the point that continued operation of the libraries places our members, staff and students at risk of contracting and transmitting COVID-19.

We remain deeply concerned at this time that TAFE has made a decision to keep libraries open.

We have written urgently to Managing Director Steffen Faurby, earlier today, seeking his clarification that TAFENSW will be following the directive of the Prime Minister to close all libraries by midnight tonight 25 March 2020 [HERE](#)

The Prime Minister last night ordered the closure of libraries Australia wide. For members' reference see <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-03-24/scott-morrison-announces-new-measures-to-slow-coronavirus-spread/12086206>

The CPSU NSW has also made a statement in this morning's Sydney Morning Herald article, here <https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/tafe-courses-suspended-from-monday-but-nursing-and-aged-care-to-continue-20200325-p54dn3.html>

There is plenty of meaningful work for library staff to continue to undertake including options for staff to work from home.

We expect the Managing Director to reply by COB today on whether he shares our concerns that keeping libraries open exposes our members and students to the aforementioned risks, and whether

TAFE will comply with Federal Government directives.

Join your union! <https://cpsunsw.org.au/join>

Members – please consider forwarding this bulletin to non-member colleagues, placing it in notice boards and distributing in your workplace.

Your CPSU NSW delegates

South Region

Brad Cowie – Wollongong
brad.cowie1@tafensw.edu.au

Regina Kimmich – Illawarra
regina.kimmich@tafensw.edu.au

Chris Pickering – Illawarra
Christopher.Pickering@tafensw.edu.au

Christopher Hobbins – Albury
christopher.hobbins@tafensw.edu.au

West Region

Leanne Riley – Parkes
Leanne.Riley2@tafensw.edu.au

Patricia Nethery – Dubbo
Patricia.Nethery@tafensw.edu.au

North Region

Gale Iseppi – Hunter
Gale.Iseppi@tafensw.edu.au

Liz Garlick – Tighes Hill
liz.garlick1@tafensw.edu.au



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Stephen O'Brien – Newcastle
stephen.obrien@tafensw.edu.au

Jin Cho
Jin.Cho3@tafensw.edu.au

Brook Down – Coffs Harbour
brook.down1@tafensw.edu.au

Walter Upson – North
walter.upson1@tafensw.edu.au

Sydney Region

Dawn Davis – Ultimo
Dawn.Davis@tafensw.edu.au

George Bissoli – Ultimo
George.Bissoli@tafensw.edu.au

Simon Gray – Ultimo
simon.gray@tafensw.edu.au

Joe Harris – St Leonards
joe.harris@tafensw.edu.au

Patrick Kiss – Hornsby
patrick.l.kiss@tafensw.edu.au

Western Sydney Region

Tracey Doyle – Campbelltown
TRACEY.DOYLE@tafensw.edu.au

Joanna Carroll – Richmond
Joanna.Carroll@tafensw.edu.au

Glenda Pryor – Blue Mountains
glenda.pryor@tafensw.edu.au

Isabella Ramirra – Strathfield
isabella.ramirra1@tafensw.edu.au

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