

Majority back Northcott Enterprise Agreement

Voting in the ballot for a new enterprise agreement covering transferred staff closed yesterday, with staff notified by the CEO earlier today.

Seventy-six per cent of employees voted and, of the valid votes cast, 1087 (58.13 per cent) voted for the agreement approximately and 783 staff (41.87 per cent) voted against. This means an application will be lodged by Northcott in the Fair Work Commission (FWC) to have the agreement approved.

Congratulations on a fight well fought. This was a serious fight and the CPSU NSW fought hard.

Whilst this is huge disappointment to the CPSU NSW delegates and members who have shown such an extraordinary level of commitment and focus throughout bargaining and in their determined and successful efforts to mobilize the 'no' vote, their level of success can be measured by the substantial number of non-members who followed the union's lead and voted with the CPSU NSW against the agreement.

Potential challenge

The CPSU NSW has received numerous complaints regarding casual employees who could not access a ballot and participate in the vote.

Northcott has been advised that the CPSU NSW is considering its position and obtaining legal advice regarding a potential challenge to the ballot outcome, because Northcott did not take reasonable steps to ensure all eligible employees were able to vote.

What's next?

In the meantime, the CPSU NSW has been in touch with Northcott to acknowledge yesterday's outcome. We are seeking details from them about their timeline in filing an application to the FWC for a new agreement, and its implementation.

Members experiencing any level of concern about the outcome of the ballot and its potential effects are urged to seek appropriate support and advice, including through the employer's employee assistance program or by contacting the CPSU NSW on 1300 772 679.

Not a member? Join today at cpsunsw.org.au/join.

