



RALLY ROUND THE DRUM CFMEU members march in support of Ark Tribe

NEW NATIONAL CODE IS A WIN

CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL CODE OF PRACTICE for the construction industry are a win for the CFMEU.

John Howard used Commonwealth purchasing power to push his anti-union agenda by determining what could happen on federally funded building sites.

This included banning union brochures, the flying of the Eureka flag and even stopping stickers being worn on safety gear.

The Liberals pushed this agenda by only giving big contracts to builders that took a hard line on restricting union activity on sites.

Under the new Guidelines many anti-union clauses have been scrapped including restrictions on union delegates performing site inductions.

The Rudd Government has also included positive measures such as ensuring those tendering for government work should have a clean record on industrial matters. That should help change John Holland's attitude.

If the companies have court orders against them for things such as unpaid wages or entitlements, this can also count against them.

To see the new guidelines go to www.workplace.gov.au or contact the Lidcombe office for more details.

FOR ONE OF THE TRIBE

THE NAME MAY CHANGE, but some things remain the same. That is the case with the Federal Labor Government's makeover on the industry watchdog, the Australian Building and Construction Commission.

Government legislation has been introduced that abolishes the ABCC, but its discriminatory coercive powers will remain, albeit with some safeguards.

This is not good enough, says CFMEU State Secretary Andrew Ferguson. "While the parliament is arguing over the changes, we still have

Ark Tribe facing six months' jail for standing up for his rights on site," Ferguson says.

"This is not what CFMEU members voted for when we helped kick John Howard out of office."

Ferguson spoke as Tribe made his third appearance before an Adelaide court on October 30. In every Australian capital, CFMEU members marched in support of the South Australian rigger, who has refused to be interviewed by the ABCC.

In Adelaide, more than 1000 supporters chanted "one law for all" as he walked in to court

to have his case adjourned to December 18 with a trial expected early next year. In Sydney the CFMEU led the protest with more than 2000 unionists marching through the CBD streets.

Ferguson says the Rudd Government needs to spend less time worrying about making business happy by attacking the construction union and focus on the rorts that are costing CFMEU members their jobs and livelihoods.

These include pyramid sub-contracting; the use of illegal workers; convenient liquidations and failure to pay proper entitlements.

DEATHS DOUBLE ON ABCC'S WATCH

DEATHS IN THE CONSTRUCTION industry have doubled since the introduction of the Australian Building and Construction Commission.

According to Safe Work Australia, there were 18 recorded deaths in the construction industry in the year before the establishment of the ABCC. Three years later, in 2007-08,

there were 36 recorded deaths. CFMEU assistant state secretary Malcolm Tulloch says the increase in deaths are a sadly predictable consequence of the anti-union laws.

"Unions have been vigorous defenders of safety in workplaces, so it is unsurprising that laws that attempt to inhibit the activity of unions have had this effect."

Year	Deaths
2004-05	18
2005-06	27
2006-07	28
2007-08	36

ABCC established: October 2005
Data: Safe Work Australia