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2 October 2018

By Email: chambers.hatcher.vp@fwc.gov.au

Vice President Hatcher
Fair Work Commission
Level 10, Tower Terrace
80 William Street
EAST SYDNEY NSW 2011

Dear Vice President Hatcher

Re: Supported Employment Services Award 2010
Four Yearly Review of Modern Awards

Matter No. AM2014/286

We refer to the above matter listed for Hearing on 5 and 6 November 2018, our correspondence dated 11 September 2018 as well as your Associate, Ms Ammy Lewis' reply dated Friday, 21 September at 4:19pm received the following Monday, 24 September 2018.

As we considered that the Hearing dates falling upon a Public Holiday in Victoria was sufficient reason to request an adjournment of the matter in our correspondence dated 11 September 2018, personal reasons for adjourning the matter were not provided. However as this is not accepted, the Writer's personal reasons for requesting an adjournment are provided below. Whilst it is acknowledged that the Full Bench is sitting in Sydney, this is a matter that affects employees Nationwide and as such involves parties from all over Australia. As one of the Hearing dates falls upon a public holiday in Victoria, it has an impact on these employees and their representatives by not providing an opportunity for representation on Tuesday, 6 November. On these grounds, we ask again that the Hearing be adjourned to a mutually accommodating date for everyone involved in the matter.

As referred to above, we advise that the Writer, who has sole carriage of this matter, has a prior commitment on Monday, 5 November 2018. This is a family event whereby her niece is being married in Dixons Creek, some distance from the CBD. This event has obviously been organized many months ago. A copy of the invitation is attached. You will note that personal details have been redacted from the invitation however can be provided to the Commission on request, but not for publication on the website.

With family and friends coming from interstate and overseas, the decision was made for the event to coincide with a family reunion. As such, accommodation was booked in January of this year for two nights stay in Dixons Creek, it being too far to comfortably drive there and back in the one day. Copies of the bookings and confirmation of those booking are attached. As stated above personal details have been redacted.

Although the wedding falls on Monday, 5 November 2018, a working day as the following day is Melbourne Cup Day, people take leave on the Monday to have an extended long weekend. This also coincides with many schools' granting the Monday before Cup Day be a curriculum day.

AED's office is small with limited resources, and as the Writer who has been involved in the fight for equitable wages for supported employees since its' conception in 2002 will be unavailable, there is no one else in our office able to instruct Counsel at the Hearing as listed.

We therefore again request consideration for the Full Bench to adjourn the earing date for at least one (1) week, and thereby it be scheduled on or after 12 November 2018.

In these circumstances, we would also request that the filing of the submissions be pushed back to 26 October 2018 at the earliest to preserve the two (2) week period between the filing of the submissions and the new proposed hearing date.

If you have any queries in relation to the above, please email us at noni.lord@aed.org.au or leave a voicemail message on (03) 9639 4333 with some convenient times for us to return your call.

Yours sincerely

Kairsty Wilson

Principal Legal Practitioner

AED Legal Centre

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