

10 December 2018

Cr Greg Christensen
Mayor
Scenic Rim Regional Council
PO Box 25
Beaudesert QLD 4285

Dear Cr Christensen,

Re: Horticulture Award 2010

Thank you for your correspondence dated 5 December 2018.

As I understand it the matter you are referring to relates to the proposed introduction of penalty rates for casual employees in the *Horticulture Award 2010*.

This matter is currently being dealt with as part of the 4 yearly review by the Part-time employment and Casual employment Full Bench (AM2014/196 and AM2014/197), presided by Vice President Hatcher.

As stated in s.619(2) of the *Fair Work Act 2009* (Cth), responsibilities for managing the Full Bench in performing its functions and exercising powers of the Commission rests with the presiding Member.

I have forwarded a copy of your correspondence to the Vice President, for his consideration.

Yours sincerely,

JUSTICE IAIN ROSS AO
President

Enquiries:
Cr Greg Christensen, Mayor
Phone: 07 5540 5111
File Ref: 14/06/003



5 December 2018

Justice IJK Ross AO
President
Fair Work Commission
PO Box 1994
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

By email only to: melbourne@fwc.gov.au

Dear Justice Ross

Fair Work Commission changes to Horticulture Award 2010

The pending decision of the Fair Work Commission relating to the Horticulture Award 2010 is expected to introduce a broad range of changes that will have widespread impacts for this industry sector.

Besides what I am sure will be a significantly negative effect on the future cost models for many operators in this already stressed sector, I would particularly like to focus on the timing and timetable for transition to the new arrangements.

There is widespread concern that, without strong representation, the Fair Work Commission is likely to set a very short lead time from announcement to introduction. Industry operators have confirmed to me their deep concern that they will not be able to modify their systems in time to comply.

Given the likely industrial representation focus on this transition, such an outcome will inevitably create angst and a damaging perspective of the industry. (The media always like a bad news story.)

I seek your urgent attention and considered engagement to seek a pragmatic schedule for this transition.

Should liaison with industry operators to gain better understanding be required, I would be happy to facilitate such conversation.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Greg Christensen", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cr Greg Christensen
MAYOR