## AFFCO UNION NEWS

Meat Workers Union, standing up for our workmates, whanau, and community.

UNIONS AND IWI WORKING TOGETHER

PLANNED SHUTDOWN DATES SIMON OOSTERMAN RETURNS 90 DAY TRIAL PERIODS



#### Unions and Iwi strengthen relationship

On September 18, the Meat Worker Union, other unions and Iwi, agreed to a new alliance.

The Mt Maunganui hui, which included the Council of Trade Unions, met for two days.

Participants identified common goals and looked for ways to work together and strengthen relationships.

The meeting developed a draft memorandum of understanding which is still being worked on.

Affco workers from each shed spoke about the recent 86-day lock out.

Affco Rangiuru president Kaipara and Horotiu delegate Waata presented a carving to the Iwi who supported workers during the lockout.

"Our joint kaupapa is really simple: It's our mokopuna."

#### **KAIPARA**

Affco Rangiuru Site President

Iwi provided financial support to members during the lockout and played a key role in getting the lockout lifted. The taonga includes each Affco shed and Iwi, intertwinned.

#### Planned shutdown dates

The following information has been provided by the company. Dates are subject to stock availability and are likely to change.

| Shed          | Closedown | Restart    |
|---------------|-----------|------------|
| Moerewa       | 7/10/2012 | 18/11/2012 |
| Wiri          | Open      | Open       |
| Horotiu       | Closed    | 07/10/2012 |
| Rangiuru Lamb | Closed    | 04/11/2012 |
| Rangiuru Beef | Closed    | 19/11/2012 |
| Wairoa        | Open      | Open       |
| Napier        | Open      | Open       |
| Feilding      | Closed    | 14/10/2012 |
| Imlay         | Open      | Open       |

### 90 day trial period

Workers who have not previously been employed by AFFCO can be fired in the first 90 days without the right to take a personal greivance to challenge it. New union members can choose to join the union confidentially during this period and pay by direct debit.



"We've got a plan and lots of new activists. What more could we ask for?"

**SIMON** 

# Oosterman is back on board

Simon Oosterman will help delegates grow the union through planning and recruitment.

Simon previously worked for the union during the Affco and CMP lockouts. The Meat Workers Union and Council of Trade Unions have funded Simon for 400 hours.

His work will include writing this newsletter, organising delegate training, helping with recruitment and planning, and will help organise social events at each plant.

Simon has years of experience organising in difficult workplaces where there isn't a union or the employer is trying to get rid of the union.

#### **Keep in touch**

If you have comments or want to see something covered please email **simon.aart.oosterman@gmail.com** 



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