



Dave McKeown

For Vice President

I am currently based at Otara Fire Station as a Station Officer. I have been a member of the NZPFU since joining the Fire Service in 2000. I'm married without kids, my personal interests include diving, hunting, fishing, golf, snowboarding and running.

I believe...

We Need to Future Proof Our Union- Being 33 years old, I have an interest in ensuring that our Union is run effectively now and well in to the future. My personal circumstances allow me time to devote to Union business and if elected I will endeavour to undertake relevant personal study/training to ensure I can bring continuous improvement to the role of Vice President of our Union.

We Need to Enhance Communication- I have heard many of you complain about the perceived lack of communication between union members, local union and union national council. I have seen this lead to a lack of transparency, speculation and rumours. This is detrimental to the union's objectives and I would see communications improved in the future.

Working Conditions Need Protecting- In recent years I have seen changes within our CEA, such as the introduction of the PCA, increased routine hours, SMS, TAPS and Flexible Rosters. Some of these have improved the Fire Service and do benefit firefighters, some not so much. However, I do not feel that the increased productivity has been reflected in wage increases. I think a more proactive, constructive approach to negotiations is needed. I am of the opinion negotiations should be approached with a sound strategy. I am not an expert in such negotiations and personally think an increased use of outside specialist advisors to compliment the union's abilities could also be beneficial.

In Fairness and Equality- This is not a big problem within the Fire Service but I have seen cases where this is a problem. I have always strived to help fellow firefighters to ensure they are treated fairly, equally and in accordance with Fire Service policy and that the rights afforded to them within our CEA are upheld.

The decision to run for Vice President is not one I have made lightly. I am confident I have the attributes, ability and drive to represent us well. I urge you to contact me via the contact details below if you would like to know any more about myself or have any other questions you would like me to answer.

Phone: (0274) 753883

Email: dave.mckeown@ihug.co.nz