

*The McMaster Students Union*

# PRESIDENT'S PAGE



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Over the summer, I have been busy working with on-campus partners to achieve my food and beverage platform initiatives. I am very excited to provide an update on the progress made thus far on The Grind expansion, TwelvEighty improvements, and the rebrand of Union Market. Additionally, the MSU Board of Directors and General Manager have worked to bring in Chatime Express as a new leaseholder in the basement of MUSC.

When running for the role of Vice President (Finance), I chose to focus many of my platform points on making improvements to our business units; specifically, the food and beverage department. One of my larger goals was to expand The Grind and double its capacity. To do this, over the past few months, I worked to conceptualize the most visually appealing design for our budget. Once there was a solid plan in place, I presented to the MSU Student Representative Assembly and Executive Board in June, attaining their approval to allocate and expend the

funds. I then worked closely with the food and beverage team to coordinate the construction and find furniture to ensure the expansion would be complete for September. While overseeing the expansion, we also explored different additions to the menu. As a result, we are now selling gourmet bagel melts. Although a two-month timeline made for a tight turnaround, the expansion is complete, with the updated space holding an additional 45 students. I am very proud of the progress made thus far, and although it has only been three weeks, students already seem to be utilizing The Grind to its new capacity.

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In addition to expanding The Grind, another priority of mine over the summer was to create a more welcoming environment in TwelvEighty and introduce the 2GO initiative. Previously, the bar appeared dated and the lighting was harsh. To address this, I spearheaded changes to improve the overall aesthetic of the space. The bar and pillars have been covered in black vinyl to replace the old yellow coverings and the light fixtures over the bar have been replaced. Students can expect additional changes to the interior, as I plan to utilize the space over the booths to highlight old and current photos of McMaster students on campus. Additionally, both Josh and I have been working to establish the TwelvEighty 2GO initiative. We created a quick grab-and-go menu of 8

different options to ensure students can receive fast, fresh, and affordable food items between classes or before heading off to a meeting.

Moreover, a 20oz coffee cup size has been added to Union Market, meaning that there is now three different cup sizes: small (12oz), medium (16oz), and large (20oz). Along with the new coffee cup size, there was also a branding refresh in the space. I encourage you to check out the new sign out front, featuring the fantastic updated logo designed

by the MSU Underground Media & Design.

Overall, it has undoubtedly been a busy summer for the MSU's food and beverage team. I look forward to continue exploring new avenues to improve services to students. Perhaps one day, The Grind will be expanded even further ... only time will tell! If at any time you have suggestions related to MSU food and beverage services or feedback about the individual spaces, please do not hesitate to send me an email at [vpfinance@msu.mcmaster.ca](mailto:vpfinance@msu.mcmaster.ca).



Students enjoying the newly expanded space in The Grind.



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The President's Page is a space sponsored and used by the McMaster Students Union (MSU) Board of Directors (BoD) to communicate with the student body. It functions to highlight the Board's projects, goals, and agenda for the year, as well as the general happenings of the MSU.



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