



# — the — PRESIDENT'S PAGE

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## LOWER CATERING PRICES FOR STUDENTS



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You may have heard that the MSU has been working with Hospitality Services over the summer to see if prices for catering can be reduced for student groups running events on campus. While we are certainly interested in making food as affordable as possible, this is a more complex issue than simply asking for lower prices. Hospitality Services maintains a large presence in the McMaster University Student Centre (MUSC), in exchange for which Hospitality Services helps to subsidize the occupancy costs for the other occupants. That is, some of the revenues from Paradise Catering, La Piazza and other food services locations on campus, help to pay for the offices, meeting rooms and lounge spaces that we enjoy on a daily basis.

However, in working with Hospitality Services, the MSU drew their attention to the fact that many student groups find Paradise Catering

unaffordable. I know from personal experience that events are often held off campus to cut costs, not because the space is expensive but because of the high cost of food. In response, as of this November, Hospitality Services will be enacting the following changes:

First, student clubs and associations that are recognized by the MSU will notice a 15% reduction in costs when placing and confirming an order with Paradise Catering. This includes MSU Clubs and Services, as well as Faculty Societies.

Second, a special catering menu targeting student groups is being prepared for November. This menu will include low-cost items and can be used if costs are an issue in planning an event.

Third, Paradise Catering will be reviewing its regular menu, including costs, at the beginning of 2013. There will be an early bird discount for groups that book and confirm in advance of this review.

The MSU will continue our lobbying efforts on this front to ensure that catering costs on campus are reasonable and affordable for students. If you have any questions or concerns about food services on campus feel free to contact myself, any member of the MSU Board of Directors or your representative(s) on the Student Representative Assembly.

## HALLOWEEN HANGOVER

Cause who celebrates Halloween on only one night?



FEATURING DJ WATTS

**\$3.50** RAILS ALL NIGHT (VODKA, RYE, RUM) **\$3.75** DOMESTIC BEER

**THURSDAY, NOV. 1st**  
COVER: \$4.50 DOORS: 9:30 PM

ONLY AT **twelvEighty** **MSU**

## MAC BREAD BIN TAKES A BITE OUT OF CAMPUS HUNGER

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When you type 'Hamilton food' into Google, at least half of the options suggested are local food banks. Other obvious search topics include restaurants, local farmers' markets and recipe ideas. Why is it that search results relating to food in Hamilton are split equally between ways to get food if you can afford it and ways to get food if you can't? It seems that the issue of hunger in our community hasn't yet been satisfied.

MAC Bread Bin is the MSU service that encompasses the student food bank and a volunteer team that is responsible for health and hunger awareness initiatives on campus. Keep a lookout for our upcoming Trick or Eat event, where we'll be collecting donations and raising awareness throughout Halloween afternoon and evening. Individuals and groups can sign-up online at [www.trickoreat.ca](http://www.trickoreat.ca) to get involved. All donations support Living Rock Ministries, a local food bank and shelter, as well as stocking the MAC Bread Bin cupboards. Through this and more, we hope to offer you a fresh perspective, one that doesn't require a search engine.

Today's students face uncertainty when it comes to job opportunities, career

direction and financial plans. With rising costs of living and tuition, sometimes it can be difficult to make ends meet. Many students find themselves racking up debt, without a clear plan on how to repay it. It can cause someone who has paid thousands of dollars to a post-secondary institute to be unable to afford groceries. This may be difficult to digest, but it's a reality and the reason why food banks exist.

At MAC Bread Bin, our main goal is to provide healthy and affordable options for you. We sell Good Food Boxes every month through the MSU Accounting Office (MUSC 201). This program offers \$20-\$30 of fresh produce from local farmers at a subsidized price (\$12 for regular orders, \$10 for Bread Bin users). We welcome new clients!

We also offer an emergency food voucher system that can be found online on our website, [msumcmaster.ca/macbreadbin](http://msumcmaster.ca/macbreadbin). Requests are filled within 72 hours and can then be picked up anonymously from a locker on campus. To compensate for any additional aid required, Hamilton Food Share is a great local resource that will provide food supplies to individuals in need.

Finally something you can really sink your teeth into, MAC Bread Bin is truly an example of students helping students. If you have any inquiries or would like to get involved feel, free to contact [macbreadbin@msu.mcmaster.ca](mailto:macbreadbin@msu.mcmaster.ca) or visit our website.

**DON'T LET THE VAMPIRES GET ALL YOUR BLOOD THIS HALLOWEEN!**  
**CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES NEEDS IT TOO...**  
**THE NEXT BLOOD DONOR CLINIC IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH IN CIBC HALL**



The President's Page is sponsored by the McMaster Students Union. It is a space used to communicate with the student body about the projects, goals and agenda of the MSU Board of Directors.

[www.msumcmaster.ca](http://www.msumcmaster.ca)

