



# MacHall Food Court

September 2016

**OUR PROMISE:  
TO SERVE AND REPRESENT**

## ABOUT THE SU

As of 2016, the University of Calgary's Students' Union (SU) is in its 74<sup>th</sup> year. The SU is an effective advocacy and service group for all undergraduate students at the University of Calgary. All undergraduate students are members of the SU. The Students' Legislative Council (SLC), the SU's governing body, is made up of five executives - the president and four vice presidents - and 19 faculty representatives, elected annually to represent students' interests. The SU's operations are supported by a professional team of staff and hundreds of student staff. As well as managing MacEwan Student Centre (MacHall), the SU runs a number of businesses. All proceeds from these student-owned ventures are reinvested directly into SU programs, services, events, and advocacy to benefit students and the campus.



## FOUND IN THE FOOD COURT

The SU's tenants include:

1. Dairy Queen/Orange Julius
2. Bake Chef Vietnamese Sub
3. La Prep
4. Coffee Company
5. Korean BBQ House
6. Umi Sushi Express
7. Carl's Jr.
8. Fuel for Gold
9. La Taqueria
10. A&W
11. Oriental Wok
12. Noodle & Grill Express
13. Pita on the Run
14. Kobe Beef
15. Opa!
16. Subway
17. Jugo Juice

There is also a Starbucks and Tim Hortons that are operated by the University of Calgary through Aramark.

### Facts and Stats

\*\*\*

7,885 – number of square feet leased by SU tenants in the food court

\$10,281,000.00 - annual sales total

\$5 - average menu item price

1,960,000 – number of meals eaten in the food court per year

1,020 – number of seats in the food court

Notable former vendors: Campus Cove, Words & Pictures, Max's Café

## HISTORY OF THE FOOD COURT

**1969** – MacEwan Hall was built and included a few food vendors

**1988** – Major expansion occurred before the 1988 Winter Olympics, significantly increasing the size of the food court.

**2003** – Another expansion added more food court vendors.

**2010** – Renovations created space for four additional food court outlets.



## STUDENT FEEDBACK

According to the 2014 SU Survey Report 56.4% of students visited MacHall primarily because of the food court. The food court is seen as an essential campus service by over 73% of students.

The most frequent comments received from respondents were related to food choices in MacHall. Comments ranged from wanting to see more vegetarian choices, to requests for specific ethnic food options.



## THE CHANGING FACE OF THE FOOD COURT

Any new food court vendors are approved by the SU. Each year, the SU conducts a survey of students to gather information which includes questions about the food court offerings. From this information, the students weigh food vendor alternatives and the final decision on any new food court tenants is made by the Students' Legislative Council.

The SU uses the annual survey to ensure that student opinions are taken into account when new vendors are chosen.

## OTHER ACTIVITY IN THE FOOD COURT

As the hub of student activity on campus the food court is home to more than just amazing food options. Small booths are available throughout the food court to sell items, promote events, and engage with students. These booths may be booked by both on- and off-campus groups through MacEwan Conference & Events Centre.

## SUSTAINABILITY

Every vendor in the food court is required to provide compostable and recyclable food containers. The SU also manages a recycling program which provides visitors with garbage, recycling, and compostable garbage disposal options.

MacEwan Student Centre generates over one metric tonne of waste per day – that's equivalent to the combined average weight of 12 ½ men or 15 ½ women. The SU's progress on packaging joins a line-up of other sustainable practices like the on-campus beverage container recycling program, participation in the university paper and cardboard recycle program, and the introduction of The LOOP, a digital messaging system in MacHall that dramatically reduces the use of paper and printing for posters.

To promote student involvement and project ideas on sustainability the SU Sustainability Fund offers grants that provides financial support to worthwhile student-generated sustainability projects and activities. Grant information is contained within the SU web site at [www.su.ucalgary.ca](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca)

The SU encourages all students to reuse, reduce, and recycle and come forward to the SU with their project ideas on sustainability.

