

Financial Report 2016 – 2017

FUNDED BY STUDENTS!

The Loaded Ladle is funded almost entirely by Dalhousie students. During the 2016/2017 year we received \$2.50 per semester for every part-time student and \$3 per semester for every full-time student on Halifax based campuses. We will receive an estimated \$109,174 from students this year. It is important to us that not only do we operate efficiently and wisely, we use our money in a way that feels ethical and good to us and is in keeping with our politics of support and solidarity.

SO MUCH FOOD!

With this funding we are able to serve 3 full meals per week for approximately 200 students per serving! We also provide food for solidarity servings on a regular basis. We like to put our money where our mouths are and support local producers and farmers and to offer predominantly local and organic meals. All meals are free and anyone is welcome to partake (you don't have to be a Dal student to eat at the Ladle!). We spend about \$12,000 annually on food costs. With 3 servings per week during the school year to around 200 people, that works out to food costs of only 70 cents per plate! Wow!

A new initiative this year have been Sexton burritos! We have been serving free burritos on the Sexton campus, recognizing that getting to the SUB to eat at our servings can be a challenge for Sexton students. We plan to continue to offer food at Sexton in the coming years as well!

VEGUCATION!

Education is an important aspect of the work of the Loaded Ladle. We offer educational programs such as Radish Reads Book Club and the To The Root Radical Food Justice conference. We also use our funding to support and educate the hardworking Board and Staff of the Loaded Ladle. We offer honorariums to people who do trainings for our staff and board (such as anti-oppression training, meeting/facilitation skills). We also provide a professional development budget for staff to learn new skills to bring to the Ladle, and a conferences budget for Board members to attend conferences to learn from and network with other student-run food movements.

SUPPORTING THE BROADER COMMUNITY

In addition to solidarity servings we offer monetary donations to local groups and initiatives that we felt are worthwhile. This year we donated to the Treaty Truckhouse and the Water Protectors Tour, both grassroots initiatives to protect the land, water, and indigenous rights from the development of Alton Gas. We also chipped in to bring Chase Joynt and Vivek Shraya to Halifax on their "Ask and Answer tour" where they investigated intersections of gender, race and transition through their work. We also continued our bursary program and offered \$2700 in bursaries for people in emergency situations, from marginalized

communities who have historically have had limited access to financial support.

STAFFING

One of our largest expenses is staffing. The Loaded Ladle currently employs 4 staff members (1-part time position at 10hrs/week and 3 full-time positions of 28-35 hrs/week). The Loaded Ladle is committed to paying a living wage of \$17/hr. Wages averaged around \$8,000 per month during the school year and \$4300 per month during the summer, including deductions and remittances to the government.

FISCAL YEAR (wha?)

A minor change this year is changing our fiscal year to run from April 1 – March 31. The fiscal year (the financial year used for keeping track of accounting) for the Loaded Ladle currently runs from the beginning of May until the end of April each year. The proposed change is so that we can line up with the regulations that we have to follow as a registered co-operative with the Province of Nova Scotia.

THIS YEAR'S TOTALS

This year (2016/2017) our expenses totaled of \$115,085. Our revenue totaled \$118,495. We ended the year with a surplus of \$3,410. We also have savings from previous years of \$65,927. Every year we are just breaking even and rely on our savings to make sure that we can continue operations. Our expenses are growing (for example we have a brand new kitchen that costs us \$5300 per year that we pay to the DSU, which is a new expense). We are also seeing more people in the line at servings and are trying to provide more food so that the food doesn't run out before the line does. Instead of relying on savings and slowly depleting them over time, we decided to run a levy campaign so that we could increase our annual funding, become more financially secure, and offer even more food and services!

THE FUTURE.....

We have been able to do sooo much with our funding but we the need for affordable student-run food services are growing, and so are we! We were successful in running a campaign to increase our levy to \$4.50 per semester for every full-time student (the part-time levy remains at \$2.50 per semester). With this levy we plan on increasing servings to 4 days per week, providing some food on Sexton campus, continuing regular solidarity servings, and increasing educational programming. We have room to grow and to incorporate new ideas. It is an exciting time at the Loaded Ladle and we hope you will join us!