

Is UPEI Going Organic?

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Reporter



It's been an organic week here at UPEI. On Monday, students who breezed through the W.A. Murphy Student Centre were treated to a smorgasbord of organic delights, and Thursday brought with it the option of buying a bowl of organic veggie stew and a biscuit for \$4 at the Student Centre and Atlantic Veterinary College cafeterias.

While these were two separate occasions brought to us by separate groups, one cannot help but see the organic connection between the two events, yet analyse the dichotomy between the efforts.

While the people who served up free vegan food on Monday thank Chartwells for their help in keeping food hot, they may be going after the same market of soup-loving students and staff on campus. The UPEI Energy Awareness Commission was looking to convince Chartwells to sell more organic delights onsite.

On Monday, the UPEI population were asked about the feasibility of establishing a People's Potato food cooperative at the university. Allow me to elaborate. At Concordia University in Montreal, students pay a total of a quarter per course to have four vegan meals served up a week. So students pay a total of \$1.25 per semester to get a free vegan meal four days a week.

This event was organized by Brad Deighan and Joy Elliot but more information about the club was inaccessible due to a lack of response regarding a story.

According to student Ryan Palmer, the annual costs of the People's Potato initiative would be less than one bowl of soup from Chartwells, which caters to the cafeteria's alimentary needs. The business student exclaimed in a group e-mail that the price was right.



"Students pay only \$0.25 per course, and can eat the free meal 4 days a week if they want! Not bad, eh?? That could work here! A whole year of eating for less than the cost of one bowl at Chartwells!"

Wesley Johnston, a member of the UPEI Energy Awareness Committee, said in a group e-mail that if the \$4 organic soup and biscuit combo was successful, perhaps this will open the door for more alternative foods to make their way onto the cafeteria menu. If there is enough support for this day it may lead to more types of organic food being served at the university cafeteria.

"If you are interested in the university food which is healthier, better for the environment and supports our local family farmers, then I urge you to participate and to tell anyone who may be interested. If there is enough support for this day it may lead to more types of organic food being served at the university."

In another uncanny coincidence, Johnston was also unavailable by press time to give further comment on how successful this campaign was. However, when this reporter went to try the veggie stew and biscuit combo for herself at the Student Centre cafeteria Thursday afternoon, the last bowl had just been served.

This just hasn't been my week for timing... I missed the free vegan food, too.

Those who did get a chance to

check out the orgasmic...er organic delights (even those who didn't) can thank Raymond Loo for food donations (onions, turnip, and potatoes) totaling \$9.30. Garth and Shawn Taylor of Taylor's Tators donated five pounds of Chieftain Red potatoes at a value of \$2.50. P.E.I.'s Berry Best donated a 500ml jar of rhubarb jam, totaling \$6.50. Last, but by no means least, is Gary Claushiede, who donated two two-pound bags of carrots, two four-pound bags of potatoes, one two-pound bag of beets and one four-pound bag of onions; for a total in excess of \$20.

In a document supplied by Deighan and Elliot's group, thanks were given to the generous people who helped make the vegan free-for-all possible.

"We would like to thank all those who supported us in making this happen; which includes the foods and nutrition department, for the use of their kitchens, Chartwells, for the use of their hotplates in order to keep the food warm; all those who participated in organizing; and last but certainly not least those who were nice enough to donate free food in order to help us promote our cause."

All of these vegan culinary delights can be found at the Farmer's Market across from the university on Belvedere Avenue. Farmer's Markets take place Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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did not book him as well). Needless to say his performance was astonishing, and there was an excellent turn out for the show. All of K-OS' songs were created with his four man band, which includes a turntablist as well, and K-OS was never shy to sit down at the piano or pick up a guitar at any given time during the show. The band was spectacular, and was never far behind the high level of energy that K-OS never ceased to exhibit. The show included many tracks from both "exit" and "Joyful Rebellion", and the sound was never repetitive, as the bass player, guitar player, drummer, and DJ all took their turns of performing solos which made the show an all around sensational experience. K-OS' success is not going unnoticed however, as he is nominated for 3 awards at the upcoming Junos that will be airing on CTV on Sunday April 3rd, at 9 pm EST. His nominations include Single of the Year for "Crabbuckit", Rap Recording of the Year for "Joyful Rebellion" and Video of the Year for "B-Boy Stance." Not only that, but K-OS is set to perform at the Junos as well, among Canadian artists Billy Talent, Simple Plan, and others. "Joyful Rebellion" has reached platinum sales status in Canada, and K-OS has been offered to tour with Soul icon India Arie, as well as personal mentors The Roots and De La Soul. In addition to that, K-OS is set to be involved in a "Journey with CBC", where he will work with the 30 piece CBC orchestra that will include a national television and radio broadcast to air this summer, as well as several "making of" specials.

K-OS' conscious style of hip hop that incorporates elements of many other music genres, is considered by many to be revolutionary to not only Canadian hip hop, but to music fans around the world. His lyrics never force the listener into believing what he believes, but rather offers insightful opinions and visions of what it is to be alive today. He has certainly proved himself thus far in all aspects of his music, and I can only hope that we hear more from this profound artist in the near future.