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## Message from President Stephen H. Kolison, Jr., July 15, 2022

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President's Office <President.Office@fredonia.edu>

Fri, Jul 15, 2022 at 10:38 AM

To: All Registered students <students@fredonia.edu>, Faculty/Staff group <facultystaff@fredonia.edu>



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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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July 15, 2022

Dear Students,

I hope you are well and enjoying the summer.

When I last wrote to you at the end of the Spring semester on May 19, 2022, I promised to look at the factors that led to the decision by FSA to close Tim Hortons. Today I want to provide you with an update on what is being done to provide you with other options.

### Tim Hortons and FSA Food Services Updates

In my discussions with FSA regarding Tim Hortons, the decision to close was based on a sound financial assessment of the operations. FSA was simply losing money in a manner that was not sustainable. FSA is a not-for-profit corporation, independent from the university, and it does not rely on subsidies from SUNY. Hence, they have to assess their business model regularly to provide services to the university to maximize customer satisfaction while maintaining financial integrity. I empathize with you for the loss of this meal option on our campus. Also, I agree with you that there was not enough communication with the study body as a whole about the information that led to such a critical decision. On that point, I am encouraged by the survey of students conducted by FSA at the end of the semester, and I believe this is an example of the kinds of efforts FSA is committed to, going forward, in getting student input on the services that it provides.

I am happy to share some things that you can look forward to in the Fall, which are based on the

concerns and ideas expressed by students:

1. Expanded hours in popular cafe locations including McEwen, which will be open 7:45 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 7:45 a.m. – 1:45 p.m. on Friday;
2. New furniture around McEwen cafe for a more cafe-style layout;
3. More grab-and-go options at Willie C's during the day and at cafe locations;
4. A wider variety for special dietary options. Vegan and vegetarian items will be available in both cafes and the C-store daily; and
5. Updated Cranston Marche menu items.

To keep up this positive momentum, FSA wants to connect more with students. Here are some things you can do to communicate your concerns with FSA and be part of their decision making in the future:

1. Continue offering feedback through [FSA's website](#). Also be on the lookout for QR codes near food service areas and cafes that you can use to access a survey from your phone;
2. Be a part of the FSA Student Advisory Board. Serving on the FSA Board gives you direct access to FSA management and allows you to be involved in strategic decision making for food and bookstore services at Fredonia. There are currently 5 board positions open to any SUNY Fredonia student. Please contact the SA President, [SA.President@fredonia.edu](mailto:SA.President@fredonia.edu) if you are interested;
3. Contact FSA to coordinate food-related events or to plan group activities in their bakeshop. To learn more about these options, contact the Food Service Director Dean Messina [messina@fredonia.edu](mailto:messina@fredonia.edu).

## **The Blue Lounge, Williams Center G138**

I have heard concerns and questions regarding what will happen to the space formerly occupied by Tim Hortons since it was such an important gathering space. I am pleased to let you know that renovations are underway in that location to create a physical space that supports students' sense of belonging and connection. When you return to campus, you will find The Blue Lounge, which is a multipurpose lounge that will serve several functions: A commuter lounge for students; a pop-up space where staff can help students with academic, financial, and skill development; and an event space. I want to thank the staff and offices of FSA and the Divisions of Student Affairs, Academic Affairs, and Finance and Administration for collaborating to make this happen.

## **Game Room, Williams Center S220, Grand Opening August 24, 12:00 p.m.**

You might have heard that the Game Room in the Williams Center, which was proposed and sponsored by the Student Association, has been officially approved and renovations are nearing completion. The Game Room will be in S220 Williams Center. Save the date and join SA for the ribbon-cutting ceremony on August 24, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. A pool table, air hockey, ping pong, Nintendo switch, and other kinds of resources and activities will be available in the Game Room and will be open to all students, including our commuter student population.

## **Looking Forward to Your Return in Fall**

Students, I am looking forward to your return for the Fall 2022 semester. If you have not yet

registered for the Fall semester, please contact Academic Advising to receive any assistance that you might need to register. Please call 716-673-3188 or send us an email at [advising@fredonia.edu](mailto:advising@fredonia.edu).

I hope you continue to enjoy your summer. Stay safe and well.

Very truly yours,

Dr. K  
Stephen H. Kolison, Jr., Ph.D.  
President and Professor

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