



MEMO

From the office of the...
President

TO:	Members of the SRA
FROM:	Jovan Popovic, President
SUBJECT:	Conferences - food expenses
DATE:	August 30 th , 2023

Dear members of the SRA,

Over the summer I've had the privilege to travel for conferences in Ottawa, Vancouver, and other cities as a representative of the MSU.

In the past (as recently as last winter), there was an allowance in place of \$50 a person per day on food. Citing inflation, the previous board motioned to change that figure to \$80, which was approved.

While I agree with an increase, \$80 is excessive. While travelling, I quickly realized that, while I was price conscious, I didn't have to be while ordering food at restaurants. Given that this is student money, I don't think that should be the case.

I am proposing a shift in the daily allowance to \$65 a day. This is a very reasonable number, allowing individuals to eat well, but also forcing sensitivity to prices.

I personally feel a sense of guilt spending more student money than I have to, and have been very price conscious, even though the allowance doesn't require me to do so. I have been able to consistently remain well under the \$80 allowance with ease, as long as I am being mindful of my spending, which is why I am motioning for this change.

Best,
Jovan Popovic
President
McMaster Students Union
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