

PROVINCIAL LANDLORD TENANT ACT TO CHANGE

The Hatfield government, several months ago, promised that the Provincial Landlord Tenant Act would be revised.

This Act, which defines the rights and obligations of both the landlord and the tenant, is in dire need of revision. In a recent study conducted by the Canadian Council of Social Development, this Act was described as the most antiquated and landlord favoured act in Canada.

The changes which the government intends to make have not been made public yet, however, it is doubtful if it will be amended so as to fully protect the tenant from landlord abuses. Read the following form letter and if you agree with it, why not sign it and send it to the Premier's office?

Dear Premier Hatfield;

I would urge your government to introduce legislation at the next sitting of the Legislature to amend the Landlord Tenant Act by:

- 1) Ending the right of a landlord to seize a tenant's furniture for non-payment of rent;
- 2) Allowing a landlord to enter a tenant's premises only in an emergency or upon 24 hours notice;
- 3) Making provisions as to when a landlord may forfeit a tenant's deposit;
- 4) Making it illegal for a landlord to discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed or political belief or to make rules which infringe upon a person's rights (such as the right to entertain guests at reasonable hours or to consume alcohol if one has reached the age of maturity);
- 5) The addition and full enforcement of provisions to ensure that all rented accommodations are fit for human habitation in that:
 - a) it is reasonably heated and ventilated and protected from the cold and rain;
 - b) it is provided with adequate sanitary facilities;
 - c) it has safe and adequate plumbing and electrical wiring;
 - d) the houses' overall structure and foundation are safe;
 - e) that adequate emergency exits are provided as well as fire alarms and extinguishers;
 - f) that it is clean and free from rodents or insect pests and meets Health standards;
- 6) That a Landlord Tenant Board be set up with power to:
 - a) set rent ceilings;
 - b) enforce all provisions of this Act;
 - c) arbitrate landlord-tenant disputes;
 - d) to collect rents in trust if a landlord fails to comply with the Act;
 - e) to have houses repaired at the landlord's expense if he refuses to repair it according to the provisions of the Act.
- 7) Making it illegal for a lease to be signed for accommodations which would violate any of the provisions of this revised Act.

Yours truly

Two kinds of people are interested in housing

Are you suffering from:

**High rents
Poor housing
High fuel bills
Fear of landlord**

**Those who live on it
Those who live off it
Landlords
Lawyers
Real Estate Companies**

**General Meeting
Of Tenants**

7:30 p.m. Monday Msgr. Boyd Family Centre