

## Other rights and responsibilities

### Ending or restricting a non-essential service or facility

A landlord can end or restrict a non-essential service or facility so long as the landlord and tenant agree to the compensation amount (generally equivalent to the value of the service being discontinued).

A landlord cannot end or restrict an essential service.

A tenant may dispute the proposed change by applying for dispute resolution.

### Prohibited fees

A landlord cannot charge any fees:

- to accept or process an application for tenancy;
- for investigating a tenant's suitability as a tenant;
- for accepting a person as a tenant;
- for the initial set of keys or access device;
- for a replacement lock, key or access device if the landlord initiated the replacement; or
- for mobile homeowners renting or trying to rent out or sell their mobile home. (They may only charge a fee if the landlord has done some work that will help the tenant rent out or sell their mobile home; for instance, clearing snow or mowing the lawn.)

### Permitted fees

Permitted fees must be specified in the tenancy agreement. Permitted fees include:

- fees for a key replacement or for additional keys, lock or access device. The fee must not be greater than the direct cost of replacing the key, lock or access device.
- NSF (non-sufficient funds) fees if included in the tenancy agreement. A landlord may charge a tenant the service fee charged by the bank if a tenant's cheque is returned. An additional administrative fee up to a maximum of \$25 can also be charged.

The landlord may also charge:

- a fee for services requested by the tenant if those services are not required to be provided under the tenancy agreement (e.g. carpet cleaning). The fee cannot exceed the direct cost incurred by the landlord.

## **Overcrowding**

The number of people residing in the rental unit must not exceed the number permitted under the Fire Code established under the Fire Prevention Act and other applicable health and safety standards.

## **Additional person joining the household**

Tenancy agreements must list all the tenants and should also include the maximum number of occupants permitted in the rental unit (limited by the Fire Code established under the Fire Prevention Act).

If the landlord plans to increase the rent when more people move in, the amount must be clearly written in the tenancy agreement and agreed on by both parties at the start of the tenancy. This is not a regular rent increase.

If there are more occupants in the rental unit than the maximum number specified in the tenancy agreement, this may constitute a breach of a material term allowing the landlord to serve the tenant with a 14-day notice to end the tenancy for cause.