



PRESS RELEASE



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CMHC Develops Online Guide to Renting a Home

OTTAWA, Ontario, March 12, 2003 — A new comprehensive rental guide, developed by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), will help the estimated four million Canadian households in rental accommodation as well as landlords and property managers find plain language information on tenant and landlord rights and responsibilities and rental practices across the country.

Aimed at the Canadian rental market, the free, Your Guide to Renting a Home online guide, located on the CMHC Web site (www.cmhc.ca), provides information on all aspects of renting in a clear, concise manner not found in any other single source publication.

"Your Guide to Renting a Home is a prime example of why Canadians rely on CMHC for comprehensive housing research, practical advice and innovative products and services", said Ian Melzer, Senior Researcher and project leader for the guide. "This publication is another in a long line of products that help consumers with their housing decisions."

First time tenants, as well as experienced landlords or property managers, will find useful resources, contacts, worksheets, sample letters and provincial and territorial fact sheets in the guide which provides a single, reliable, unbiased source of rental information.

Input provided by provincial and territorial rental authorities, legal counselors, tenants and business experts ensures the guide is comprehensive and reliable. The Web-based format gives free access to the information 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

"In addition to the free, easy access to the information, the Web-based format allows for periodic updating", added Melzer.

Your Guide to Renting a Home, complements other CMHC publications designed to help Canadians with their housing needs.

Free and priced publications including **The Newcomer's Guide to Canadian Housing** (free); **Homebuying Step by Step: A Consumer Guide and Workbook** (free); **Condominium Buyer's Guide** (free); **Homeowner's Inspection Checklist** (priced) and; **Homeowner's Manual** (priced), are available from CMHC at 1-800-668-2642.

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Your Guide to Renting a Home

CMHC's online guide for tenants, landlords and property managers.

Your Guide to Renting a Home is CMHC's free online publication designed to help the four million Canadian households in rental accommodation, as well as landlords and rental property managers. It provides a comprehensive overview of tenant and landlord rights and responsibilities and rental practices in all provinces and territories.

The plain language guide is available on CMHC's Web site at: www.cmhc.ca

The guide also has hyperlinks to additional information, from related provincial and territorial Web sites.

What's in it for Canadians?

Whether first-time tenant, experienced landlord or property manager, **Your Guide to Renting a Home**, offers general information and useful tips on all aspects of renting in Canada including:

- how to find accommodations or tenants;
- the credit check;
- rental agreements;
- security deposits and prepayment of rent;
- inspections on moving in or out;
- emergency repairs;
- safety and health;
- common household pests;
- pets;
- smoking;
- dealing with problems;
- notices, requests and applications;
- lease renewal and termination;
- rent increases;
- late rent payment;
- eviction;
- lease assignment and subletting;
- marketing a rental unit and;
- rights and responsibilities under provincial and territorial rental legislation and regulations.

Various resources, contacts, templates, worksheets, sample letters, provincial and territorial fact sheets and hyperlinks round out the content.

Why an online rental guide?

The Web-based format:

- ensures Canadians across the country have immediate, access to free, comprehensive information "24/7" and;
- facilitates periodic updates.

To access **Your Guide to Renting a Home**, visit the CMHC Web site at: www.cmhc.ca and from the left-hand menu, select: "Buying or Renting a Home > **Renting a Home**".

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CMHC may also be reached by telephone at: 1-800-668-2642.