



FOR RELEASE
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Yukon tables new residential landlord and tenants bill

WHITEHORSE—A new residential landlord and tenant bill was tabled in the Yukon legislature yesterday by Community Services Minister Elaine Taylor. The legislation was developed through public consultation and is based on recommendations from the Select Committee on the *Landlord and Tenant Act*.

During a public review this summer, more than 200 Yukoners provided online and written input, demonstrating overwhelming support for the principles that have been included in the bill.

"The Yukon government is pleased to put forward modern residential tenancy legislation that reflects best practices from across the country and balances the interests of both landlords and tenants in a fair and measured approach," Taylor said.

The new legislation addresses rules around security deposits, rent increases, and notice of termination of tenancies. It will also require written tenancy agreements and condition inspection reports, and will include a number of plain language amendments. The new legislation will clarify residential tenancy relationships and create a new dispute resolution process.

A key provision of the bill is the establishment of a new Residential Tenancies Office that will administer the legislation, provide public information and support to clients, hear and settle disputes outside of the courts, and have the ability to make binding decisions on those disputes.

The new office will also lead the development of minimum rental standards, such as the requirement for carbon monoxide and smoke detectors in all rental units. These regulations will be developed with input from Yukoners in the coming months.

Pending approval, the new act will come into force in 2013, once the associated regulations have been developed and approved.

For more information, visit www.community.gov.yk.ca.

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