



# Dispute Resolution Services

Page: 1

Residential Tenancy Branch  
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

## **DECISION**

Dispute Codes      OPR, MNR

### Introduction

This matter proceeded by way of an *ex parte* Direct Request Proceeding, pursuant to section 55(4) of the *Residential Tenancy Act* (the “*Act*”), and dealt with an Application for Dispute Resolution by the landlord for an Order of Possession based on unpaid rent and a monetary Order.

The landlord submitted two signed Proof of Service of the Notice of Direct Request Proceedings which declares that on November 29, 2016, the landlord sent the tenants the Notices of Direct Request Proceeding by registered mail to the rental unit. The landlord provided copies of the Canada Post Customer Receipts containing the Tracking Numbers to confirm these mailings. Based on the written submissions of the landlord and in accordance with sections 89 and 90 of the *Act*, I find that the tenants have been deemed served with the Direct Request Proceeding documents on December 04, 2016, the fifth day after their registered mailing.

### Issue(s) to be Decided

Is the landlord entitled to an Order of Possession for unpaid rent pursuant to sections 46 and 55 of the *Act*?

Is the landlord entitled to monetary compensation for unpaid rent pursuant to section 67 of the *Act*?

### Background and Evidence

The landlord submitted the following evidentiary material:

- Two copies of the Proof of Service of the Notices of Direct Request Proceeding served to the tenants;
- A copy of a residential tenancy agreement which was signed by a landlord, who is not the applicant, and 2 tenants, who are not named as the respondents, on

November 18, 2013, indicating a monthly rent of \$1,290.00 due on the first day of the month for a tenancy commencing on December 15, 2013;

- A copy of a letter showing the transfer of management responsibilities from the former landlord, who is named on the residential tenancy agreement, to the current landlord who is applying for dispute resolution;
- A Monetary Order Worksheet showing the rent owing and paid during this tenancy; and
- A copy of a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent (the 10 Day Notice) dated October 24, 2016, with a stated effective vacancy date of October 24, 2016, for \$250.00 in unpaid rent.

Witnessed documentary evidence filed by the landlord indicates that the 10 Day Notice was posted to the door of the rental unit at 9:00 a.m. on October 24, 2016. The 10 Day Notice states that the tenant had five days from the date of service to pay the rent in full or apply for Dispute Resolution or the tenancy would end.

### Analysis

Direct request proceedings are *ex parte* proceedings. In an *ex parte* proceeding, the opposing party is not invited to participate in the hearing or make any submissions. As there is no ability of the tenants to participate, there is a much higher burden placed on landlords in these types of proceedings than in a participatory hearing. This higher burden protects the procedural rights of the excluded party and ensures that the natural justice requirements of the Residential Tenancy Branch are satisfied.

In this type of matter, the landlord must prove that they served the tenants with the 10 Day Notice in accordance with section 88 of the *Act*.

Section 88 of the *Act* allows for service by either sending the 10 Day Notice to the tenant by registered mail, leaving a copy with the tenant, leaving a copy in the tenant's mailbox or mail slot, attaching a copy to the tenant's door or leaving a copy with an adult who apparently resides with the tenant.

I find that the tenants named on the 10 Day Notice appear to be the children of the tenants named on the tenancy agreement. I further find that the tenants named on the 10 Day Notice have not signed the tenancy agreement and were not at the age of majority in British Columbia at the time that the tenancy agreement was signed by their parents.

For the above reason, I find that the 10 Day Notice has not been served in accordance with section 88 of the *Act*.

Therefore, I dismiss the landlord's application to end this tenancy and obtain an Order of Possession on the basis of the 10 Day Notice of October 24, 2016, without leave to reapply. The 10 Day Notice of October 24, 2016, is cancelled and of no force or effect.

For the same reason listed above, I dismiss the landlord's application for a monetary Order with leave to reapply.

The landlord must reissue the 10 Day Notice and serve it in one of the ways prescribed by section 88 of the *Act*, or according to Residential Tenancy Policy Guideline #39, if the landlord wants to apply through the Direct Request process.

### Conclusion

The landlord's application for an Order of Possession on the basis of the 10 Day Notice of October 24, 2016 is dismissed, without leave to reapply. The 10 Day Notice of October 24, 2016 is cancelled and of no force or effect.

This tenancy continues until it is ended in accordance with the *Act*.

I dismiss the landlord's application for a monetary Order with leave to reapply.

This decision is made on authority delegated to me by the Director of the Residential Tenancy Branch under Section 9.1(1) of the *Residential Tenancy Act*.

Dated: December 05, 2016

---

Residential Tenancy Branch