

Dispute Resolution Services

Residential Tenancy Branch Office of Housing and Construction Standards

A matter regarding 678490 BC LTD. and [tenant name suppressed to protect privacy]

DECISION

Dispute Codes MNRL-S, FFL

Introduction

On August 23, 2020, the Landlord applied for a Dispute Resolution proceeding seeking a Monetary Order for compensation pursuant to Section 67 of the *Residential Tenancy Act* (the "*Act*"), seeking to apply the security deposit towards this debt pursuant to Section 67 of the *Act*, and seeking recovery of the filing fee pursuant to Section 72 of the *Act*.

F.T. attended the hearing as an agent for the Landlord. The Tenant also attended the hearing. All parties in attendance provided a solemn affirmation.

F.T. advised that he served the Tenant the Notice of Hearing and evidence package by registered mail on August 25, 2020 and the Tenant confirmed receipt of this package. Based on this undisputed testimony, and in accordance with Sections 89 and 90 of the *Act*, I am satisfied that the Tenant was served with the Notice of Hearing and evidence package. As such, I have accepted the Landlord's evidence and will consider it when rendering this Decision.

The Tenant advised that she served her evidence to the Landlord on November 17, 2020 by registered mail and F.T. advised that this evidence was not received. As service of this evidence did not comply with the timeframe requirements of Rule 3.15 of the Rules of Procedure, I have excluded this evidence and will not consider it when rendering this Decision.

All parties were given an opportunity to be heard, to present sworn testimony, and to make submissions. I have reviewed all oral and written submissions before me; however, only the evidence relevant to the issues and findings in this matter are described in this Decision.

During the hearing, the parties turned their minds to reaching a full and final settlement agreement. The parties were able to reach an agreement and I have recorded the terms of agreement by way of this Decision.

Background and Evidence

While I have turned my mind to the accepted documentary evidence and the testimony of the parties, not all details of the respective submissions and/or arguments are reproduced here.

All parties agreed that the tenancy started on July 1, 2017 and ended when the Tenant gave up vacant possession of the rental unit on August 17, 2020. Rent was established at \$932.00 per month and was due on the first day of each month. A security deposit of \$440.00 was also paid. A signed copy of the tenancy agreement was submitted as documentary evidence.

Settlement Agreement

I raised the possibility of settlement pursuant to Section 63(1) of the *Act* which allows an Arbitrator to assist the parties to settle the dispute. I explained to the parties that settlement discussions are voluntary, that if they chose not to discuss settlement I would make a final and binding Decision on the matter, and that if they chose to discuss settlement and did not come to an agreement, that I would make a final and binding Decision on the matter.

I advised the parties that if they did come to an agreement, I would write out this agreement in my written Decision and make any necessary Orders. I also explained that the written Decision would become a final and legally binding agreement. The parties did not have questions about discussing a settlement when asked.

The parties reached the following full and final settlement agreement during the hearing:

- 1. The Landlord is permitted to keep the Tenant's security deposit in the amount of **\$440.00**.
- 2. The Tenant must pay **\$100.00** to the Landlord for the Application filing fee.
- 3. The parties agreed that fulfilment of these conditions would amount to full and complete satisfaction of any amounts owing. Both parties understood that they are now precluded from filing any other Application for Dispute Resolution against the other party with respect to this tenancy.

I have accepted and recorded the settlement agreement reached by the parties during this hearing and I make the term(s) an Order to be binding upon both parties.

If condition two is not satisfactorily complied with, the Landlord is granted a Monetary Order in the amount of **\$100.00**. This Order is enforceable only if the Tenant fails to comply with the payment requirements set forth in the settlement above.

This settlement agreement was reached in accordance with Section 63 of the *Act*. The parties confirmed at the end of the hearing that this agreement was made on a voluntary basis and that the parties understood the binding nature of this full and final settlement of these matters. The parties also agreed that no further Applications will be made against the other party with respect to this tenancy.

Conclusion

The parties reached a full and final settlement agreement in resolution of their disputes. I have recorded the terms of settlement in this Decision and in recognition of the settlement agreement, the Landlord is permitted to retain the Tenant's \$440.00 security deposit.

In addition, I provide the Landlord with a conditional Monetary Order in the amount of **\$100.00** to serve and enforce upon the Tenant, if necessary. The Order must be served on the Tenant by the Landlord. Should the Tenant fail to comply with this Order, this Order may be filed in the Small Claims Division of the Provincial Court and enforced as an Order of that Court.

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: November 24, 2020

Residential Tenancy Branch