

Dispute Resolution Services

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Residential Tenancy Branch
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

DECISION

<u>Dispute Codes</u> CNR, RP, OLC, FFT

Introduction

On June 13, 2021, the Tenants made an Application for Dispute Resolution seeking to cancel a 10 Day Notice to End Tenancy for Unpaid Rent (the "Notice") pursuant to Section 46 of the *Residential Tenancy Act* (the "*Act*"), seeking a repair Order pursuant to Section 32 of the *Act*, seeking an Order to comply pursuant to Section 62 of the *Act*, and seeking to recover the filing fee pursuant to Section 72 of the *Act*.

Tenant J.K. attended the hearing, and the Landlord attended the hearing as well. At the outset of the hearing, I explained to the parties that as the hearing was a teleconference, none of the parties could see each other, so to ensure an efficient, respectful hearing, this would rely on each party taking a turn to have their say. As such, when one party is talking, I asked that the other party not interrupt or respond unless prompted by myself. Furthermore, if a party had an issue with what had been said, they were advised to make a note of it and when it was their turn, they would have an opportunity to address these concerns. The parties were also informed that recording of the hearing was prohibited and they were reminded to refrain from doing so. All parties acknowledged these terms. As well, all parties in attendance provided a solemn affirmation.

The Tenant advised that they had already given up vacant possession of the rental unit on September 1, 2021, rendering the matters in this Application a moot point. However, the parties turned their minds to settlement discussions regarding the utilities owed.

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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 Tenants will pay to the Landlord the amount of **\$1,150.00**, which represents the total utilities owed, as agreed upon, for the duration of the tenancy.
- 2. The Tenants will pay this amount to the Landlord via electronic transfer by October 15, 2021.
- 3. The parties agreed that fulfilment of these conditions would amount to full and complete satisfaction of this dispute.

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 they understood the binding nature of the settlement of these disputes. No further Applications can be made by either party with respect to this tenancy.

Conclusion

The parties reached a full and final settlement agreement in resolution of this dispute. I have recorded the terms of settlement in this Decision and in recognition with the settlement agreement, the Landlord is provided with a conditional Monetary Order in the amount of \$1,150.00 in the above terms. The Tenants must be served with this Order as soon as possible. Should the Tenants fail to comply with this Order, this Order may

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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: October 12, 2021

Residential Tenancy Branch