



Ref: 20889

JUL 05 2016

Her Worship Ms. Lisa Helps, Mayor  
City of Victoria  
1 Centennial Square  
Victoria BC V8W 1P6  
Email: [mayor@victoria.ca](mailto:mayor@victoria.ca)

Dear Mayor Helps:

Premier Christy Clark has asked me to respond to your February 9, 2016 letter requesting that the *Residential Tenancy Act* and Regulations be reviewed and amended to increase protections for tenants who may be subject to eviction for renovations ("renoviction").

The *Residential Tenancy Act* (the Act) was established to provide a fair and balanced approach to tenancies for landlords and tenants and sets out their obligations. Landlords must follow specific rules before issuing a notice to end a tenancy for renovations or repairs. The rules are in place to protect tenants while still allowing building owners to maintain their buildings.

When undertaking extensive renovations or repairs that require a unit to be vacant, landlords must have all the necessary municipal permits in place before they can issue a notice to tenants. They must provide two months' notice for month to month tenancies as well as compensate the tenant with one month's rent.

In response to concerns raised by James Bay residents earlier this year, the Residential Tenancy Branch held an educational information session on tenants' and landlords' rights and responsibilities on February 3, 2016 at the James Bay New Horizons Activity Centre. I understand that those who attended found the session to be informative and created greater awareness of their rights under the Act and the dispute resolution services available through the Branch.

Sincerely yours,

Rich Coleman  
Minister and Deputy Premier

cc: Premier Christy Clark

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Minister of Natural Gas Development  
Minister Responsible for Housing  
and Deputy Premier

Office of the Minister

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