

FactSheet on COVID-19 and Housing

(Vancouver Tenants Union) -

March 31st Update

Be Safe. Just Stay.

Even if you Cannot Pay.

My income decreased because of COVID-19. Is there help from the government?

Many renters have lost income due to COVID-19 and cannot pay rent and basic necessities. Different levels of government have announced income supports, however, many of these supports **won't come in time before rent is due.**



I won't be able to pay my rent! What do I do?

The BC Government passed a moratorium on all evictions.

If you are unable to pay your rent. **DON'T GO. JUST STAY.**

EVEN IF YOU CAN'T PAY. Make sure you have enough money for basic necessities for you and your family.

HOWEVER any Outstanding rent **NOT** paid at the end of the emergency period **COULD** result in an eviction notice being served.

I got an eviction notice during the emergency period. Do I have to leave?

NO. You should stay. It's unsafe to move right now.

All eviction notices issued after March 30th are not valid unless they allege physical harm to the landlord, their property or to other occupants. All eviction notices issued **BEFORE** March 30th need to be disputed in the proper time guidelines otherwise you are agreeing to leave when the moratorium is lifted. Go to bcrentcrisis.ca for links to disputing an eviction notice.

Can the landlord kick me out by force?

A landlord cannot physically evict you, change the locks on the door, take a tenant's personal property without court order, or hire a bailiff on their own to evict a tenant. A landlord who illegally evicts a tenant may be fined up to \$5,000 and may be required to repay costs incurred by the tenant as a result. You do not have to answer harassing phone calls or open the door to your landlord if they are threatening you.

Is a Landlord allowed to gain access to my suite?

The landlord or landlord representatives is not allowed in your home without your permission during this crisis for any reason (including showing the unit or routine maintenance), except in case of serious emergency (to protect someone's safety or prevent undue damage to the unit)

To talk to others in your building contact:

For online resources you can go to bcrentcrisis.ca Translations uploaded as available.

PLEASE TAKE A PHOTO BUT DON'T TAKE ME!

Don't pass under doors, don't hand to people. Stay Safe!