

# New Residential Rental Accommodation Licensing Bylaw

## **FAQs for Tenants**

### **1) If my landlord does not currently have a licence, does this mean I am living in an illegal building?**

If the dwelling unit falls under the definition of a Lodging House and no licence has been issued then yes, the business is operating illegally.

### **2) If my landlord does not have a licence, is my lease null and void?**

The lease is a private contractual agreement between you and your landlord and not impacted by the issuance or non-issuance of the licence.

### **3) If my landlord is required to have a licence, do I have to move while one is being obtained?**

No, but it is suggested that you consult with your landlord to ensure that one is obtained.

### **4) Will my rent increase if my landlord gets a licence?**

The amount of rent you pay and any changes to that are governed by your lease, not the licence.

### **5) What should I do if my landlord does not have a licence and does not want to get one?**

Report this to the Compliance and Licensing Section of the City Enforcement Division 905-896-5655 or to [www.bylaw.enforcement@mississauga.ca](mailto:www.bylaw.enforcement@mississauga.ca)

### **6) Can I reside in the basement of the Lodging House?**

No, a *Lodging Unit* is not permitted in the basement.

### **7) Can I have a roommate?**

No, a Lodging Unit can only be occupied by one person.

**8) Can I have a fridge or stove or other types of cooking apparatus in my room?** No, a Lodging Unit may contain sanitary facilities but shall not contain equipment or appliances for storing, cooking, or heating food, and shall not contain equipment or appliances for washing clothes or washing dishes.

## **FAQs for Landlords**

### **1) If I already have tenants, am I allowed to honour their leases until I get my licence?**

The lease is a private contractual agreement between you and your tenants which does not involve the City. Should the licence not be granted, you will be required to terminate the lease as per the termination clause and the tenants would be required to vacate the premises.

### **2) How long does it take to get a licence?**

The licence can be issued in a relatively short period of time provided the application and all required supporting documentation is supplied and deemed acceptable.

### **3) If I am not approved for a licence will my tenants have to leave?**

Yes

### **4) Under the new by-law, if I have to evict my tenants due to licensing issues, they can hold me responsible for not honouring their lease. Is the City taking this into consideration?**

Your lease should contain a clause related to termination should the licence be refused or revoked.

### **5) Where do I go to apply for the licence?**

The completed application with all supporting documentation must be submitted to the Compliance and Licensing office located on the ground floor of the *Mississauga Civic Centre, 300 City Centre Drive, Mississauga*. A copy of the application form can be obtained from the City web site – go to Services Online, Forms on line, Enforcement Application for a Business licence. Information on the application requirements as well as regulations related to licence holders can be found in the Lodging House Licensing By-law found under By-laws On line on the City web site, [www.mississauga.ca](http://www.mississauga.ca)