



June 21, 2011

Important information for Landlords regarding rental ads

The Ontario Human Rights commission has announced that it has written to media and housing websites regarding discriminatory housing advertisements.

The Commission will be actively investigating any websites or ads that contain statements that were either directly or potentially discriminatory.

The Commission is asking the rental industry to help prevent, identify and remove discriminatory ads, and is suggesting a number of best practices such as providing information on human rights in housing, and including a non-discrimination clause on forms which landlords use to place ads.

Generally, most landlords and tenants want to comply with housing-related laws. As a resource, the Commission has developed an online **fact sheet** that outlines how to write a non-discriminatory housing ad, provides examples of discriminatory statements such as “adult building”, “must provide proof of employment” or “No ODSP (Ontario Disability Support Program)”, and suggests fairer alternatives.

The Commission’s fact sheet on rental advertising can be found here:

<http://www.ohrc.on.ca/en/resources/factsheets/fairads>

You are encouraged to consult this information to ensure your ads pose no conflict with the Human Rights Code.

Other support materials include **landlord** and **tenant** brochures as well as an **e-learning module** on Human Rights and Rental Housing. For more information, visit the Human Rights Commission’s website: **<http://www.ohrc.on.ca/en/resources/news/fairads>**.

Please note: the Human Rights Commission no longer handles telephone inquiries.

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