

---

**From:** Simon Fraser [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** September 15, 2024 3:35 PM  
**To:** Office of the Legislative Counsel  
**Subject:** Amendmant on fixed term leases

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

**\*\* EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE \*\***

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Good day,

My common-law wife and I, after being upstanding tenants in our halifax flat for several years, hold a periodic lease that gave us the impression our type of rental agreement would provide us some protection against the fixed term epidemic that's rendering many of the lowest earning residents of the province prone to having their long held rents raised beyond affordability, with little to no options because of a multi decade lull in affordable property project development for renters in HRM coupled with a rapidly intensifying demand for rental units of any and all price ranges.

My spouse has psychological and physical conditions that compromise her potential to increase her contributions to the household, having a meagre income from her long term disability insurance and I, after victoriously battling a long standing substance use addiction with a sub collegiate education background and holding a minimum wage employment position, have held as strong as we could against the only yet months old pressure from our property ownerships attempt to intimidate and coerce us into assuming our impending illegitimate eviction is valid and justifiable.

The psychological toll has been vast and damaging on the two of us as individuals, and as a couple. Now entering into our 8 year old romantic partnership.

The impact on my working life has been notable to superiors and coworkers, and social acquaintances in both my spouse and my own personal lives.

High anxiety and constant distraction from our life commitments have left me and my partner a sense of insecurity and deep doubt in moving forward together with optimism for our continued success as a co-habiting couple and more generally as low income residents in Nova Scotia.

We have sought advising through multiple channels, both official and social, and to date hold only moderate expectations we will be protected against the ultimate intention of our rental units owners, which is to have our tenancy revoked, by whatever approach or application of powers they hold, in order to readjust the rent they are paid at tolerable levels currently offered in an ever-competitive rental market, which we cannot afford to compete with.

The illegitimate implication of having to sign a fixed term lease to at all continue our tenure as renters was the most recent turn in the aggressive pursuit by property ownership, and if not for seeking out the consult of the Nova Scotia tenancy boards advising, we may have fallen prey to the attempt. But we

know by now not to feel completely assured as the ownerships incentives are too great to expect our flat to be an exception in this era of unfair and illegitimate evictions as it continues without any foreseeable intervention unless municipal and provincial governmental actions are taken to protect low periodic rents in atlantic Canada.

Many others, just as vulnerable as we, already have lost tenancies and more will follow unless fixed term leases, as they are currently structured and utilized by landlords, are much more strongly regulated and restricted. Stricter limits must be placed on the level of rent which can be reaped from the eviction of longer standing low income tenants in this province.

Please help us, we need change now.

Thank you.