You have a right to be free from discrimination and harassment. In the housing context, this means sellers and landlords cannot refuse to rent, evict, or treat you differently based on your identity.

The New Brunswick Human Rights Act ("the Act") protects you from discrimination based on 16 protected grounds, including race, age, disability, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

These protections extend to housing, ensuring fair treatment when buying, selling, or renting property.

Wolastoqey Tribal Council Inc.

New Brunswick Law Foundation
Fondation pour le droit au Nouveau-Brunswick

For more details on human rights and housing in New Brunswick, visit our website.

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Human Rights and Housing

in New Brunswick

What Does Discrimination in Housing Look Like?

Discrimination in housing includes practices like:

- Limiting or denying housing (e.g., biased advertisements or screening based on race);
- Failing to fulfill landlord obligations (e.g., refusing repairs or withholding deposits);
- Neutral rules with negative impacts (e.g., no pets policies affecting people with disabilities).

For First Nations people, housing discrimination based on ceremony or cultural practices, as well as their identity, is prohibited.

What To Do if I Experience Discrimination

If you believe you've faced discrimination, you can file a complaint with the New Brunswick Human Rights Commission. The complaint process is free and involves mediation, investigation, and possibly a formal hearing by the Labour and Employment Board.

The incident(s) must:

- Have happened within a year of the complaint being filed;
- Involve a provincially-regulated sector or service; and
- Have occurred in New Brunswick.

For more information, or to file a complaint, contact the Commission at **(506) 453-2301** or **hrc.cdp@gnb.ca**.

Complaint Process Steps

1. **File a Complaint:** Fill out the Commission's complaint forms and provide as much detail as possible;
2. **Review:** The Commission will assess your complaint and may request additional information;
3. **Mediation:** If moving forward, a trained mediator will help parties reach a resolution;
4. **Investigation:** If mediation fails, further investigation may occur.
5. **Hearing:** If unresolved, a formal hearing will be held to make a final decision.

The complaint must be filed **within one year of the incident,** with possible extensions under specific circumstances.

What Protections Do I Have in Housing?

- **Right to Reasonable Accommodation:** Housing providers must accommodate legitimate needs (e.g., mobility ramps, visual fire alarms) unless it causes undue hardship;
- **Non-Discriminatory Terms of Occupancy:** You are entitled to fair terms regarding rent, lease duration, repairs, and services.

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