

## Considering a Potential Place to Rent

Take time to research and inquire about local landlords to learn more about who you are renting from

- Is public transportation nearby or is it walking distance from the campus? (please remember, New Brunswick gets snow in the winter and you may not be able to use a bicycle or scooter. The weather can be very cold.)
- Does the place have the important things you are looking for? Remember, not everything on your list may be available as housing is limited, i.e. Are there parking space(s)?
  - i.e., Is it pet friendly? What are the conditions of having a pet?
- Are there laundry facilities onsite? Where are they? Is there a cost associated with them? Confirm hours of operation.
- Do the bedroom doors have locks? (If you would like them! Not all students look for bedroom door locks.) If you are solely renting a room, it should have a lock.
- Do the windows open, close and lock easily? They must have windows that meet code (safety standards) for emergency escape. If not, it may be impossible to get insurance.
- How does trash work? i.e. Is there a dumpster on the property, or bins out front on trash day?
- Are there working smoke detectors? Is a fire extinguisher provided?
- Is any furniture included?
- What appliances are included? i.e., stove, fridge, microwave, etc.
- Are utilities included in the rent? If not, how much are utilities? (utilities can include heat and lights (power), internet, phone). These can amount to significant additional expenses you need to plan for!
- What is the length of the rental period? i.e., month by month, yearly, etc.
- How is the rent expected to increase over time?

- What kind of renter's insurance is required, or if it is required? It is highly recommended to have.
- Is a security/damage deposit required? If so, how much is it and how will you be getting it back? Always make sure to get a receipt for your damage deposit or you have the option to pay the deposit at a Service New Brunswick (SNB) office.
- Does the location fit your needs/lifestyle?
- Who takes care of the outside maintenance? i.e., lawn care in the summer, shoveling the winter
- Is there a clear contact to reach to have other maintenance issues addressed (leaky faucets, issues with hot water, insect issues, etc.?)

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