

## Filing Fee Waiver

Landlords and tenants who file claims with the Residential Tenancies Branch need to pay a filing fee. Landlords who file applications for an order of possession also have to pay a filing fee. Tenants and landlords who want to appeal a Branch decision about a claim or an order of possession need to pay a fee to the Residential Tenancies Commission.

As of March 1, 2013, the Branch and the Commission will have the authority to waive filing fees for certain clients. Fees will be waived for clients who can provide proof that they

- receive benefits under The Employment and Income Assistance Act; or
- receive a guaranteed income supplement under the Old Age Security Act (Canada).

When the Branch or Commission issues an order for one person to pay money to another person (e.g. a tenant to pay a landlord, a landlord to pay a tenant), the person may also be ordered to pay costs. Costs are awarded to cover expenses like filing fees, service costs and photocopying. The Residential Tenancies Costs Regulation sets out how much can be awarded. The Costs Regulation will be amended to indicate that, if the Branch or Commission waives the filing fee, costs will not include any amount to cover the fee.

To see the Residential Tenancies Costs Regulation, [click here](#).