Tenant Advisory Committee

Mandate

To provide information, advice, recommendations and advocacy regarding residential tenancy issues and policies that would improve the overall well-being of tenants in Hamilton.
Objectives

- To identify systemic and policy issues facing tenants and provide advice and recommendations to the City.
- To advocate for policy issues affecting tenants that require further action with the municipal, provincial and federal governments.
- To develop strategies for information dissemination and education to tenants regarding tenant issues.
Tenant Advisory Committee

Membership

- 7 members: tenants and agencies that work with tenants, i.e. Housing Help Centre, McQueston Legal Clinic.

- John Hawker – Chair
- Mary Sinclair
- Connie Bellamy
- Andrew Cranbury
- Susan Andrews
- 2 vacant
Tenant Advisory Committee
2010 Accomplishments

Workplan Priorities

- Developed Workplan for 2010
- Established 4 areas of focus
  - Property Standards
  - Rent Supplements
  - Bed Bugs Infestations
  - Communications with Tenants
Tenant Advisory Committee
2010 Accomplishments

Property Standards

- Received presentation from Community Liaison Co-ordinator, Municipal Law Enforcement regarding property standards process for rental properties
- Will continue to Liaise with City staff regarding rental property licensing issue
- Received presentation from Federation of Rental Property Owners of Ontario (FRPO) regarding building certification program
Bed Bug Infestations in Rental Buildings

In September 2009, received presentation on best practice to treat bed bug infestations in social housing buildings. Further work needed on disseminating information to tenants

Rent Supplements

Recommendation report to Emergency & Community Services Committee regarding importance of Housing Allowances for tenants and requesting Council to advocate to Province for continuation of this program
The Future 2010 – 2011 Objectives

- Develop Work Plan for 2011
- Complete outstanding items for 2010:
  - Communications with tenants – what is the best way to reach tenants and what are the important issues and information that they need to be aware of
Tenant Advisory Committee

THANK YOU!