

**MANITOBA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' POLICY**

**POLICY #A-5
version 1.0**

SECTION: Application

Effective date: February 25, 2005

SUBJECT: RENTAL OF PREMISES: DIRECT PAYMENT OF RENT FROM SOCIAL SERVICES

Purpose:

This policy is intended to assist in the understanding and application of *The Human Rights Code* ("*The Code*"). Where there is any conflict between this policy and *The Code*, *The Code* prevails.

Context:

The Commission considers it to be a contravention of s.16 of *The Code* for a landlord or rental agent to require a tenant whose source of income is social allowance or similar benefit, to agree as a condition of renting the premises, to the direct payment of the rent to the landlord or rental agent from social services or the payor of the benefit, unless there is reasonable cause with respect to this term or condition of occupancy.

While each case will be assessed on the basis of its individual merit and circumstances, one example of reasonable cause for direct payment may be where the tenancy record of the applicant shows that he/she has a poor record with respect to payment of rent when due.

APPROVED BY:

"Janet Baldwin"
Chairperson

March 9, 2005
Date