

## ORDER OF AN EXECUTIVE OFFICER UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION ORDER TO VACATE

**To:** Gary Thebeau

"the Owner"

**And To:** All Occupant(s) of the following Housing premises:

**RE:** Those housing premises located in Winfield, Alberta and municipally described as:

306 Bourbon Avenue

WHEREAS I, an Executive Officer of Alberta Health Services, have inspected the above noted premises pursuant to the provisions of the Public Health Act, RSA 2000, c. P-37, as amended;

**AND WHEREAS** such inspection disclosed that the following conditions exist in and about the above noted premises which are or may become injurious or dangerous to the public health or which might hinder in any manner the prevention or suppression of disease, namely:

- a. The Private Sewage Disposal System (PSDS) for this housing premise is in a state of disrepair such that sewage effluent is being discharged onto the ground surface.
- b. The private water well for this housing premise is not properly protected from contamination.
- c. The sanitary drainage piping under the housing premise and the service connection to the septic tank is not protected from freezing.
- d. The wood stove in the living room has a chimney that is in a state of disrepair.
- e. There are no functioning smoke alarms, in this housing premise.

**AND WHEREAS** such inspection disclosed that the following breaches of the Public Health Act and the Housing Regulation, Alberta Regulation 173/99, and the Minimum Housing and Health Standards exist in and about the above noted premises, namely:

- a. The PSDS is discharging sewage effluent onto the ground surface within 50 feet of the housing premise it serves. This condition is contrary to the requirements of the Housing Regulation, Section 3(1)(b)(i) which states, "the occupants of the housing premises are supplied with adequate sanitary facilities, including a sanitary drainage system or private sewage disposal system." And Section 3(2) which states, "an owner shall ensure that the housing premises' plumbing system and facilities provided under subsection (1)(b) are free from defects and maintained in proper operating condition."
- b. The private water well for this housing premise is not protected from contamination. This condition is contrary to the requirements of the Housing Regulation, Section 3(1)(b)(iii) which states, "an owner shall ensure that, running hot and cold water that is safe for human consumption".
- c. The sanitary drainage piping under the housing premise is not protected from freezing. This condition is contrary to the requirements of the Housing Regulation, Section 3(1)(b)(i)

- which states, "the occupants of the housing premises are supplied with adequate sanitary facilities, including a sanitary drainage system or private sewage disposal system." And Section 3(2) which states, "an owner shall ensure that the housing premises' plumbing system and facilities provided under subsection (1)(b) are free from defects and maintained in proper operating condition."
- d. The wood stove in the living room, has a chimney that is in disrepair. This condition is contrary to the requirements of the Housing Regulation, Section 3(1)(a) which states, "Subject to subsection (3) and Section 4, an owner shall ensure that (a) the housing premises are (i) structurally sound, (ii) in a safe condition, (iii) in good repair, and (iv) maintained in a waterproof, windproof and weatherproof condition." This condition is also contrary to the requirements of the Minimum Housing and Health Standards, Section 8(a), which states, "All heating facilities within a housing premises are to properly installed and maintained in good working condition."
- e. There are no functional smoke alarms in the housing premises. This condition is contrary to Section 12 of the Minimum Housing and Health Standards, which states, "Smoke alarms within dwellings shall be installed between each sleeping area and the remainder of the suite and, where hallways serve the sleeping areas; the smoke alarms shall be installed within the hallway, (a) Smoke alarms shall be operational and in good repair at all times."
- f. The front exterior door and openable windows do not properly lock and secure. This condition is contrary to the requirements of the Minimum Housing and Health Standards, Section 3(a) which states, "Exterior windows and doors shall be capable of being secured."
- g. Some of the windows are in disrepair. This condition is contrary to the requirements of the Minimum Housing and Health Standards, Section 2(b) which states, "(i) all windows and exterior doors shall be; maintained in good repair, free of cracks and weatherproof." And, "(iii) During the portion of the year when there is need for protection against flies and other flying insects, every window or other device intended for ventilation shall be supplied with effective screens."
- h. There are areas within the housing premises, where the flooring is in disrepair. This condition is contrary to the requirements of the Housing Regulation, Section 3(1)(a) which states, "Subject to subsection (3) and Section 4, an owner shall ensure that (a) the housing premises are (i) structurally sound, (ii) in a safe condition, (iii) in good repair, and (iv) maintained in a waterproof, windproof and weatherproof condition." This is also contrary to the requirements of the Minimum Housing and Health Standards, Part III, Section 1(a) which states, "The housing premises shall be structurally sound." And, "(c) Building materials that have been damaged or show evidence of rot or other deterioration shall be repaired or replaced."
- i. An exterior structure attached to the housing premise is in disrepair and the back steps and small deck are in a state of disrepair. The front steps are not provided with hand rails. These conditions are contrary to the requirements of the Housing Regulation, Section 3(1)(a) which states, "Subject to subsection (3) and Section 4, an owner shall ensure that (a) the housing premises are (i) structurally sound, (ii) in a safe condition, (iii) in good repair, and (iv) maintained in a waterproof, windproof and weatherproof condition." This is also contrary to the requirements of the Minimum Housing and Health Standards, Part III, Section 1(a) which states, "The housing premises shall be structurally sound." And, "(c) Building materials that have been damaged or show evidence of rot or other deterioration shall be repaired or replaced."
- j. Electrical connections associated with the water heater are in a state of disrepair. This condition is contrary to the requirements of the Housing Regulation, Section 3(1)(a) which states, "Subject to subsection (3) and Section 4, an owner shall ensure that (a) the housing premises are (i) structurally sound, (ii) in a safe condition, (iii) in good repair, and (iv)

maintained in a waterproof, windproof and weatherproof condition." And the Minimum Housing and Health Standard, Section 11 which states, "Every housing premises shall be supplied with electrical service. Outlets, switches and fixtures shall be properly installed and shall be maintained in a good and safe working condition."

**AND WHEREAS**, by virtue of the foregoing, the above noted premises are hereby declared to be **Unfit for Human Habitation**.

## NOW THEREFORE, I hereby **ORDER** and **DIRECT**:

- 1. That the occupants vacate the above noted premises on or before June 20, 2016.
- 2. That the Owner immediately undertake and diligently pursue the completion of the following work in and about the above noted premises, namely:
  - a. The Private Sewage Disposal System will need to be assessed and repaired or replaced as determined by a qualified Private Sewage Disposal System contractor. This system will also need to meet the requirements of the Alberta Private Sewage Systems, Standard of Practice.
  - b. The private water well will have to be protected from possible sources of contamination. The well will need to be shock chlorinated and sampling for the presence of bacteria, through an accredited lab, to be completed and a copy of satisfactory results sent to an Executive Officer of Alberta Health Services.
  - c. All sanitary drain piping and building sewer lines are to be properly protected from freezing.
  - d. The chimney will need to be assessed, by a qualified contractor or Safety Codes Officer. You will need to follow and complete any work that they require and a copy of their reports are to be sent to an Executive Officer of Alberta Health Services. Alternatively, remove the wood fired stove from the living room (if it is not essential to heating the interior of the housing premises) and properly block off the chimney vent at the ceiling/roof.
  - e. Have properly functioning smoke alarms installed at all bedroom locations or in the hall outside a group of bedrooms.
  - f. All exterior doors and windows must be capable of being properly locked and secured.
  - g. Replace any broken or missing panes of glass and provide properly fitted screens for all openable windows.
  - h. All damaged flooring materials will need to be removed and replaced with new material and refinished, covered or sealed, as appropriate.
  - Exterior structures: Repair or remove the wood structure on the North end of the housing premise. Repair all steps and decking and secure hand railing on stairways as required by the applicable Alberta Building Code.
  - j. Have a qualified electrical technician check all of the electrical connections for the water heater and install the appropriate cover plates for all connections. Install a proper and secure barrier between the bedroom and the water heater closet.
- 3. That until such time as the work referred to above is completed to the satisfaction of an Executive Officer of Alberta Health Services; the above noted premises shall remain vacant and secure from unauthorized entry.

The above conditions were noted at the time of inspection and may not necessarily reflect all deficiencies. You are advised that further work may be required to ensure full compliance with the Public Health Act and regulations, or to prevent a public health nuisance.

DATED at Wetaskiwin, Alberta, June 6, 2016.

Executive Officer
Alberta Health Services

## You have the right to appeal

A person who a) is directly affected by a decision of a Regional Health Authority, and

b) feels himself aggrieved by the decision

may appeal the decision by submitting a Notice of Appeal form within ten (10) days after receiving the order to:

Public Health Appeal Board c/o Central Reception Main Floor, Telus Plaza North Tower 10025 Jasper Avenue NW Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 1S6 Phone: 780-427-2813

Fax: 780-422-0914 Email: <u>HealthAppealBoard@gov.ab.ca</u>

Website: http://www.health.alberta.ca/about/PHAB.html

A Notice of Appeal form may be obtained by contacting Alberta Health Services at 780-342-0122 or by contacting the Public Health Appeal Board.

Health Legislation, Regulations and Standards

Electronic versions of the Public Health Act and Regulations are available at the Alberta Queen's Printer Bookstore 10611 - 98 Avenue, Main Floor, Park Plaza, Edmonton, Alberta, T5K 2P7 or www.qp.gov.ab.ca.

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Health Legislation and regulations are available for purchase. Please contact Alberta Queen's Printer Bookstore 10611 - 98 Avenue, Main Floor, Park Plaza, Edmonton, Alberta, T5K 2P7 or <a href="https://www.qp.gov.ab.ca">www.qp.gov.ab.ca</a>.

Copies of standards are available by contacting the Health Protection Branch of Alberta Health at 780-427-4518 or by visiting: <a href="https://www.health.alberta.ca/about/health-legislation.html">www.health.alberta.ca/about/health-legislation.html</a>

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Copy: Rod Hawken, County of Wetaskiwin