

Housing Search Checklist

*Remember NEVER view a rental property by yourself – take a trusted friend.

Gas and Electricity

- Check electrical sockets, are they working?
- Are there light fixtures in each room?
- Are there enough electrical sockets?
- Are they properly located?
- What kind of heat is used?
- Does the heating system work?
- Do all of the appliances work (fridge, stove, washing machine and dryer)?
- What is the average monthly heating and hydro bill?

Plumbing

- Are there any leaks around faucets, toilets, pipes?
- Does plumbing work?
 - Taps?
 - Toilets
 - Bathtub
 - Shower
- Is there hot water?
- Is the water pressure good?
- Is there an exhaust fan in the bathroom or a window?

Utilities (what's included)

- Hydro (electricity)
- Internet
- Gas
- Heat
- Cable (Television)
- Water

Furniture

- Is furniture included?
- If so, is there enough for all tenants?
- Is there sufficient storage?

Safety and Security

- Is the apartment secure (working locks and windows)?
- Do smoke and fire alarms work?
- Is there a fire escape?
- Are the external doors solid?
- Do all ground floor and basement windows have locks?
- Is there outdoor lighting?

Services Provided

- Does the landlord provide any services (garbage disposal, recycling pick-up, lawn maintenance, snow removal)?
- Is there a 24-hour call in service for repairs?
- How long for repairs to be completed?
- What repairs is the tenant responsible for?
- What responsibilities will the tenant have?

Other things to ask

- Is there a lease required and what is the length?
- What is the monthly rental amount?
- Is there a deposit required?
- Where is the closest grocery store and bus stop?
- How long does it take to walk to the college or to take a bus there?
- Are pets allowed?
- Is there parking for guests?
- Can I sublet for a semester?
- Can I have a roommate?
- Can I paint or redecorate?
- Is smoking allowed?