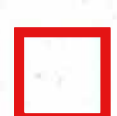


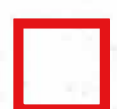


# HOUSING CHECKLIST



## EDUCATE YOURSELF ABOUT HOUSING IN CANADA.

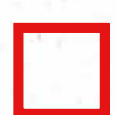
WATCH OUR [PRE-ARRIVAL HOUSING VIDEO](#) FOR HELPFUL TIPS AND [READ THIS DOCUMENT FOR INFORMATION](#) ABOUT WHAT TENANTS (RENTERS) NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE LAW.



## DETERMINE YOUR BUDGET.

MOST ROOM RENTALS [PERMITTING ONE OCCUPANT](#) COST BETWEEN \$400 AND \$600 PER MONTH.

PLEASE NOTE THAT MOST LANDLORDS DO NOT PERMIT ROOM SHARING IN SINGLE ROOM RENTALS. FOR SHARED ROOMS, MOST TWO-BEDROOM APARTMENTS COST BETWEEN \$1100 AND \$1500 PER MONTH. TWO-BEDROOM APARTMENTS CAN OFTEN BE SHARED BETWEEN FOUR PEOPLE. WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU GET THE PERMISSION OF THE LANDLORD.



## FIND ROOMMATES.

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A SHARED ROOM, FIND ROOMMATES THROUGH PERSONAL CONNECTIONS, THE ROOMMATE FEATURE ON [WWW.PLACES4STUDENTS.COM](#), OR SOCIAL MEDIA.

THE BRANTFORD CAMPUS HAS AN OFFICIAL FACEBOOK GROUP ADMINISTERED THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE -

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/INTERNATIONALSTUDENTSBRANTFORD](https://www.facebook.com/groups/internationalstudentsbrantford)

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS THE ONLY FACEBOOK GROUP FOR CURRENT STUDENTS THAT IS MONITORED BY THE COLLEGE AND ALL OTHER GROUPS ARE RUN INDEPENDENTLY. PLEASE EXERCISE CAUTION WHEN USING SOCIAL MEDIA.



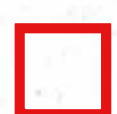
## SEARCH FOR RENTAL ADVERTISEMENTS IN YOUR BUDGET.

*ADVERTISEMENTS FOR SINGLE ROOM RENTAL (NOT SHARED):*

[WWW.PLACES4STUDENTS.COM](#) - SEARCH "CONESTOGA", THEN CLICK THE OPTION FOR YOUR CAMPUS. PLEASE NOTE THAT PLACES4STUDENTS.COM IS BEST FOR THOSE SEEKING SINGLE ROOM OCCUPANCY FOR \$400-\$550. MOST LANDLORDS ADVERTISING A SINGLE ROOM FOR RENT WILL NOT PERMIT SHARING BETWEEN TWO PEOPLE.

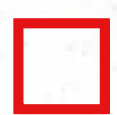
*ADVERTISEMENTS FOR APARTMENTS AND HOUSES:*

[WWW.KIJJI.CA](#) - UNDER "ONTARIO", SELECT THE LOCATION OF YOUR CAMPUS, THEN SELECT "REAL ESTATE" AND THEN "APARTMENTS" OR "HOUSE RENTAL". IT IS NOT RECOMMENDED THAT STUDENTS USE KIJJI TO FIND SHARED ACCOMMODATIONS OR ROOM RENTALS.



## FIND LOCAL TRANSIT.

IN KITCHENER, WATERLOO & CAMBRIDGE YOU CAN USE THE [GRAND RIVER TRANSIT WEBSITE](#) AND [GOOGLE MAPS](#) TO FIND TRANSIT ROUTES. IN BRANTFORD, PLEASE NOTE THAT LOCAL TRANSIT IS AVAILABLE, BUT IT DOES NOT SHOW UP ON GOOGLE MAPS. [SEE A MAP OF BRANTFORD](#) FOR AVAILABLE TRANSIT ROUTES.

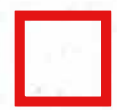


## CONTACT LANDLORDS.

*HERE IS AN EXAMPLE:*

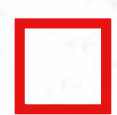
"HELLO, I AM A STUDENT AT CONESTOGA COLLEGE AND MY FRIENDS AND I ARE INTERESTED IN THIS APARTMENT. I WOULD LIKE TO SET UP AN APPOINTMENT TO VIEW IT, AND I AM AVAILABLE *[INSERT DATES]*. I MAY BE REACHED AT *[INSERT PHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL]*.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND CONSIDERATION, *[INSERT NAME]*."



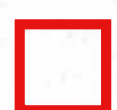
## READ LANDLORD RESPONSE CAREFULLY.

THE LANDLORD WILL OFTEN OUTLINE AN APPLICATION PROCESS FOR INTERESTED TENANTS. A LANDLORD MAY ASK YOU SOME QUESTIONS, *BUT IT IS ILLEGAL FOR A LANDLORD TO ASK YOU CERTAIN QUESTIONS*. FOR A LIST OF LEGAL AND ILLEGAL QUESTIONS FOR A LANDLORD TO ASK, [SEE THIS LIST](#). IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR YOU ARE NOT SURE HOW TO RESPOND, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO FORWARD THE MESSAGE TO THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSITION TEAM AT [INTERNATIONALTRANSITION@CONESTOGAC.ON.CA](mailto:INTERNATIONALTRANSITION@CONESTOGAC.ON.CA) FOR FEEDBACK.



## ARRANGE VIEWING APPOINTMENT.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOU VIEW THE RENTAL UNIT IN PERSON, OR HAVE IT VIEWED BY A PERSON THAT YOU TRUST. IF A LANDLORD SAYS THAT THEY CANNOT SHOW YOU THE UNIT IN PERSON FOR SOME REASON (SUCH AS BEING OUT OF THE COUNTRY), THIS MAY BE A SIGN OF FRAUD OR A SCAM. *FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO AVOID SCAMS OR FRAUD*, [READ THIS ARTICLE](#). IF YOU ARE VIEWING THE UNIT IN PERSON, TAKE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AND BRING A FRIEND WITH YOU IF POSSIBLE.



## MAKE YOUR CHOICE.

WHEN VIEWING THE RENTAL UNIT IN PERSON, YOU MAY TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASK THE LANDLORD QUESTIONS SUCH AS: *WHAT UTILITIES OR APPLIANCES ARE INCLUDED? WHAT IS THE REQUIRED LENGTH OF THE LEASE? HOW MANY PEOPLE LIVE IN THE RENTAL UNIT? IS LAUNDRY ON SITE? ARE THERE FUNCTIONING SMOKE DETECTORS (WHICH ARE LEGALLY REQUIRED FOR FIRE SAFETY)? DOES THE LANDLORD LIVE IN THE BUILDING?*

IF THE LANDLORD LIVES IN THE BUILDING, WILL YOU BE SHARING A KITCHEN OR BATHROOM WITH THE LANDLORD? PLEASE NOTE THAT IF YOU SHARE A KITCHEN OR A BATHROOM WITH THE LANDLORD THAT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS WILL BE LIMITED, AND THE LANDLORD COULD ASK YOU TO LEAVE AT ANY TIME.



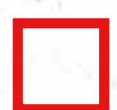
## SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION.

IF YOU DECIDE THAT THE ACCOMMODATIONS ARE APPROPRIATE FOR YOU, FOLLOW THE APPLICATION PROCESS AS INSTRUCTED BY THE LANDLORD, USING YOUR OWN JUDGEMENT.



## IF APPLICABLE, SIGN A LEASE.

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL, THE LANDLORD WILL MOST LIKELY REQUIRE YOU TO SIGN A LEASE. READ THE LEASE CAREFULLY, SIGN IT AND SEND IT BACK TO THE LANDLORD. THIS PROCESS CAN BE DONE IN PERSON OR ELECTRONICALLY. IF YOU OR THE LANDLORD ARE NOT SURE ABOUT HOW TO DO THIS, PLEASE EMAIL KENDRA AT [INTERNATIONALTRANSITION@CONESTOGAC.ON.CA](mailto:INTERNATIONALTRANSITION@CONESTOGAC.ON.CA)



## PAY LAST MONTH'S RENT. (NOT IN CASH, BUT WITH E-TRANSFER, CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER)

PAYING WITH E-TRANSFER THROUGH A BANK WILL REDUCE THE LIKELIHOOD OF BEING SCAMMED. RENTAL SCAMS OFTEN INVOLVE WIRE TRANSFERS OR CASH PAYMENTS. ENSURE THAT YOU RETAIN A COPY OF YOUR LEASE.



## ARRANGE A TIME TO PICK UP YOUR KEYS AND MOVE INTO THE UNIT.