Leah Dyck

Re: Reply Direct - Case 234-2024-5259 (due Nov 21, 2024)

To: HPOL Correspondence (MMAH)

Hello,

Thank you for getting back to me about my email to Minister Calandra.

I have raised all my issues with the Mayor of Barrie Alex Nuttall, and the Service Manager for the County of Simcoe Mina Fayez-Bahgat. These two people are actually named respondents in one of my Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario (HRTO) lawsuits, and they both deny all allegations made against them.

On August 20, 2024, the Ontario Provincial Police told me by email, that they are unable to become involved in matters in another police service's jurisdiction, unless asked to do so by that service. They then directed me to contact the Barrie Police Service (which I did, and have provided their response further down below). This same day, Ontario Ombudsman Paige McWilliams told me they don't have jurisdiction over Barrie Housing because of the way they're structured.

On October 3, 2024, I spoke to Ontario Ombudsman Grace Suwondo on the phone, and she basically confirmed there's nothing they can do. On October 31, 2024, Ontario Ombudsman Maria Castro emailed me to tell me that my concerns regarding Barrie Housing were referred to their general unit, who does have jurisdiction over Barrie Housing. On November 11, 2024, I spoke with Ontario Ombudsman Nicole Plotkin, who said they're not able to get involved, and even if they could, they don't have the authority to compel Barrie Housing to do anything.

On October 1, 2024, Jamie Zohr, Police Constable #6056 of the Operational Services - Alternate Response Unit (ARU) responded to my online complaint submitted, with Barrie Police Service Summary Incident Report #CL24004171, stating, "This is a civil matter and you need to seek advice from a lawyer. Police are not allowed to become involved in civil disputes... no further actions required at this time. This file can be closed..."

I'm not able to afford any legal counsel.

I regularly contact Pro Bono Ontario for legal assistance regarding my legal materials. They're only able to provide half-hour at a time, and they're not able to consistently help (its the rules). Legal Aid Ontario isn't able to help me either. The local community legal clinic is not interested in helping whatsoever, and the other clinics not in my area say they can't help because I'm not in their area.

On October 29, 2024, the head of the County of Simcoe's Legal Department, Zarah Walpole told me they don't get involved in disputes between private parties. They also told me that they've delegated their responsibilities to Barrie Housing, despite the Housing Services Act, 2011, c. 6, Sched. 1, s. 17 (5) stating that a service manager remains responsible for the exercise or performance of any delegated powers or duties.

On November 13, 2024, I heard back from the Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada and Administrative Assistant, Communications Gaye Bissett told me they don't have any regulatory power over Barrie Housing.

I asked the Ontario Human Rights Commission to intervene as a party in my HRTO matter and on November 1, 2024 they denied my request.

The Housing Services Act, 2011, c. 6, Sched. 1, s. 23 (1), if, in the opinion of the Minister, a service manager has contravened a provision of this Act or the regulations, the Minister may exercise the following remedies:

- 3. The Minister may apply to a judge of the Superior Court of Justice for an order,
- i. directing the service manager to carry out a specified activity or course of action to rectify the contravention or to ensure future compliance, or
- ii. prohibiting the service manager from carrying out a specified activity or course of action that would result in, or would be likely to result in, the continuation or repetition of the contravention.

The Housing Services Act further states;

(5) If the Minister applies to a judge of the Superior Court of Justice under paragraph 3 of subsection (1), the Court may make the order or any other order it considers reasonable. 2011, c. 6, Sched. 1, s. 23 (5).

I am asking Minister Calandra to reconsider his position in staying independent, as it is my position that he should be concerned when there's good reason to believe that Barrie Housing is engaged in a mass-scale fraud scheme, especially when the alleged fraud involves public funds administered by the Ontario Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services.

On behalf of all Barrie Housing's Rent-Geared-to-Income tenants who've received any amount of monetary social assistance between 2015 and present, I beg of you to reconsider, and at least look into this urgent matter.

Thank you for your time and for getting back to me.

Sincerely,

Leah Dvck

Social Justice Advocate

See More from HPOL Correspondence (MMAH)