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Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

(HANSARD) Published under the authority of The Honourable Dan D'Autremont Speaker

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Rent Increases Rescinded

Mr. Forbes: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I would like to invite my colleagues to join with me in congratulating the residents of the Robinson Street building in Regina that had recently received rent hikes. Yesterday on Monday, residents were informed that their rent hikes had been rescinded.

The tenants of this building on Robinson Street had received notice of rent hikes that would have seen one resident's rent increase by \$520. Many residents, especially seniors on a fixed income, saw this as an eviction notice and contacted the media for help in raising awareness on this issue. The residents worked together with the official opposition to address these unfair and unreasonable hikes. And, Mr. Speaker, some of my fellow members may remember last Wednesday when we raised this issue in question period. Tenants shouldn't have to come to the legislature to find affordable housing in Saskatchewan, and this problem cannot continue.

The residents of this building are excited and proud of their advocacy on this issue, but are worried about what will happen to other tenants who are being gouged. They wonder how they can share their success throughout the province.

Mr. Speaker, the residents want to know if this government will do anything on a permanent basis to address rent gouging in this province, or will the Sask Party continue to deal with this issue on a case-by-case issue and worrying about bad PR [public relations]?

Mr. Speaker, I would ask the members of the legislature to join with me in congratulating the residents of the Robinson Street building on their successful advocacy. We are proud to have stood with them on this issue, and we'll continue to listen and act on the concerns of the people of Saskatchewan. Thank you.