



YOUR RIGHTS : SOURCE OF INCOME

Samantha is receiving social assistance. She applies to rent an apartment but is turned down. The landlord tells her that he only rents to people who are employed.

Albert and Edith are retired. Their income comes from government pension funds and RRSP's. When Albert and Edith purchase a new car, they want to finance it through the car dealer. However, the finance company turns down their application because they are receiving a pension.

Samantha, Albert and Edith have experienced discrimination on the basis of their sources of income. As long as Samantha can pay her rent, and Albert and Edith can make their car payment, where their income comes from is irrelevant.

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THE LAW

The Prince Edward Island Human Rights Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of source of income in these situations:

- Employment
- Volunteering
- Offering accommodations, services or facilities to the public
- Membership in professional, business or trade associations and employee organizations
- Leasing or selling property
- Publishing, broadcasting and advertising

It is important to understand the difference between source of income and amount of income. For example, a credit union can turn down a loan application because the applicant does not have the amount of income necessary to cover the payments. However, a credit union cannot base a lending decision on where the income comes from.

EXCEPTIONS

The Government of Prince Edward Island, Crown agencies, and regional health authorities can require that persons be receiving social assistance benefits in order to qualify for access to certain accommodations, services, programs, or facilities established to assist persons who are receiving social assistance benefits, such as, employment training programs.

*Human Rights:
It's
Everyone's
Business...*

*Why Not Make It
Yours?*