

**Montréal**  
change  
20°C Mostly Cloudy

News Sports Music Radio TV My Region ▾ More ▾ Watch ▾ Listen ▾

[Sign Up](#) | [Log In](#)

**CBCnews | Montreal**

**LIVE** Montreal More Streams  
Radio One  
 Listen Live  
**88.5 FM**  
radio one

- Home
  - World
  - Canada
  - Politics
  - Business
  - Health
  - Arts & Entertainment
  - Technology & Science
  - Community
  - Weather
  - Video
- Canada
Montreal
Photo Galleries

# Montreal tenants protest lack of heating

**One resident fights for three years to have her apartment heat turned up**

CBC News Posted: Oct 25, 2012 4:10 PM ET | Last Updated: Oct 25, 2012 4:18 PM ET



A man dressed in tinfoil demonstrates outside the Quebec rental board office to draw attention to tenant complaints surrounding heating issues. (Morgan Dunlop/CBC)

**Stay Connected with CBC News**

- Mobile
- Facebook
- Podcasts
- Twitter
- Alerts
- Newsletter

Some Montreal tenants who say their landlords have left them in the cold demonstrated today in an attempt to get the attention of Quebec's rental board.

They staged a protest outside the board's offices in downtown Montreal, out of frustration over "excessive" waits for hearings on the issue.

Community organizer Sheetal Pathak said that many landlords try to save money by not turning on the heat until December.

Pathak says she's heard a wide range of excuses from landlords, including "I don't have to put the heat on until there is snow on the ground."

The city and the rental board recommend that landlords keep temperatures at 21C year round. But in cases where apartments temperatures dip below that level, tenants must wait for the rental board to address the situation, said Pathak.

Margaret Prince has been fighting for a warmer apartment for three years. She says her cold apartment has compounded her bladder problems.

"My apartment was so cold, when I'd come in from outside I couldn't get warm," she said.

Once a tenant sends a complaint to the rental board, they could be stuck waiting for months, or even years, said Pathak.

The rental board has no way to deal quickly with cases like Prince's, she said, where the health and security of the resident could be at risk.

She added tenants can sometimes wait up to 20 months for a hearing and even if the case is marked as urgent, it can take up to two months.

"We think it's completely unfair," Pathak said. "Tenants who are stuck in this situation cannot get justice at the rental board."

"People end up waiting many months in the winter in badly-heated

**Latest Montreal News Headlines**

- Firefighters' union head Ronald Martin suspended for 6 months without pay
- Is Guzzo's 'hockey widow' promotion offensive?  3
- Do prayers have a place at city hall? Supreme Court to decide  68
- Court battle over P-6 protest bylaw will cost city at least \$110K
- Logging fight gets big backer
- Patrick Brazeau faces charge of impaired care of vehicle
- Assisted suicide appeal puts all eyes on Supreme Court
- Missing Quebec 8-year-old boy found on Mont Rougemont
- Steven Stamkos scores hat trick as Lightning rout Habs  14
- Montreal Alouettes retire Anthony Calvillo's No. 13 jersey  14

**Must Watch**



**Logging fight gets big backer**

2:33

A group fighting the deforestation of Mont Kaikop gets a boost



**CBC News Montreal at 11 - October 13, 2014**

30:00

Late Night News from Montreal

apartment."

Pathak hopes today's demonstration will raise awareness about the living conditions of many Montrealers.

"The point is to show how ridiculous it is that people have to take measures to fend for themselves," she said.

[Report Typo](#)

[Send Feedback](#)

from David Suzuki.



**CBC News: Montreal - October 13, 2014**

30:05

CBC TV News, Weather and Sports from Montreal



**David Suzuki in Montreal**

2:08

Famous Canadian environmentalist hits Montreal on his Blue Dot tour to talk about clean drinking water.

### Top News Headlines



■ New Ebola cases could reach 10,000 per week in 2 months

- NDP announces child-care plan with focus on affordability
- Sleepwalker acquitted of attempted murder attacks again — while awake
- Light at the end of the fire: Crews set to get downtown Calgary power back Thursday
- Joe Oliver takes questions after morning economists meeting

### Most Viewed

- Missing Quebec 8-year-old boy found on Mont Rougemont
- Saguenay prayer case hearing begins at Supreme Court
- Ronald Martin, firefighters' union head, suspended over Bill 3 protest
- 'Hockey widow' ad targeting women defended by Guzzo Cinemas
- Montreal Alouettes retire Anthony Calvillo's No. 13 jersey
- Montreal spends \$110K on lawyers to defend anti-protest bylaw P-6
- Beaconsfield school sends teen home for 'too-short' shorts
- Lower North Shore and Anticosti Island losing winter ferry service
- Ebola-like symptoms emerge in patient being treated in Abitibi
- Nurses protest 114 job cuts at CSSS Laval

### Don't Miss

Ronald Martin, firefighters' union head, suspended over Bill 3 protest	'Hockey widow' ad targeting women defended by Guzzo Cinemas	<b>SAGUENAY PRAYERS</b> Saguenay prayer case hearing begins at Supreme Court	Montreal spends \$110K on lawyers to defend anti-protest bylaw P-6	<b>VIDEO</b> Logging fight gets big backer	<b>UPDATED</b> Patrick Brazeau faces charge of impaired care of vehicle	<b>ASSIS</b> Assis puts Court



## CBC.ca

- Aboriginal
- Books
- Contests
- Digital Archives
- Documentaries
- Kids
- Kids' CBC Preschool

- Music
- News
- Parents
- Program Guide
- Radio
- Sports
- Television

- Subscriptions
- CBC Player
- CBC Shop

## CORPORATE

- About CBC
- Transparency and Accountability
- Jobs
- Production Facilities
- Mobile Production Rentals
- Ombudsman
- CBC Get the Facts
- Independent Producers

- Public Appearances
- Pitch a Radio or Audio Program
- Program and Content Sales
- Archive Sales
- Educational Sales
- Image Research Library & Still Photos
- Consumer Recordings
- Digital TV

**STAY CONNECTED**

[MOBILE](#)

[RSS](#)

[PODCASTS](#)

[MEMBER SERVICES](#) [NEWSLETTERS & ALERTS](#)

[Terms Of Use](#)

[Reuse & Permissions](#)

[Advertise](#)

[Privacy](#)

[Site Map](#)

[Help](#)

[Contact Us](#)

Copyright © CBC 2014

**CBC**  **Radio-Canada**

[cbc.radio-canada.ca](http://cbc.radio-canada.ca)

[cbc.ca](http://cbc.ca)

[radio-canada.ca](http://radio-canada.ca)