

Charlottetown resists rezoning as eviction notices delivered

Last Updated: Thursday, June 18, 2009 | 4:02 PM AT [Comments 13](#)[Recommend 5](#)

[CBC News](#)



The residents of the 19 trailers will have to clear out by the end of May 2010. (CBC)

Residents of a trailer park in Charlottetown have been served eviction notices as the owner tries to clear the way to building condominiums on the site.

The application to rezone Idle Wheels Trailer Park to make way for a 50-unit condominium was initially turned down by city council, but that decision was overturned in an appeal to the Island Regulatory and Appeals Commission. The city had been considering a court appeal. In the meantime, eviction notices have been delivered.

"It was just taped to my door Saturday afternoon," resident Mark Kinney told CBC News Wednesday. "I didn't talk to anybody, didn't receive a phone call from anybody or nothing."

The people occupying the 19 trailers on the site have been given until the end of May 2010 to move out. Kinney said he is considering his options, but they are all costly.

"Maybe look for piece of land or something, or another place to put [the trailer]," he said.

"That's a big expense to move a trailer and set up water, sewer and all that. You're looking at 20, 25 thousand dollars: not just so easy to come up with that out of your pocket."




Mark Kinney said all his options are looking expensive. (CBC)

Some of the mobile homes can't be moved. They have been in place for so long they wouldn't hold together structurally. Since the owners can't sell them, they're left with no collateral to put toward a new home.

John Flemming has lived here in the park for seven years. He said no one here wants to move, and it was a sad day when everyone got their notices.

"Depressed, everyone was all mad. You couldn't talk to anyone. It was really terrible," said Flemming.

The trailer park owner, L. and A. MacEachern, is still waiting for the city to adhere to the IRAC decision and change the zoning. 

Coun. David MacDonald said the city feels a 50-unit condominium does not fit into the neighbourhood, and is concerned about traffic. MacDonald said the city will not rezone, but IRAC has the power to do that itself.

As for the eviction notices, there is nothing the city can do about those. Some residents plan to fight them, but others say they've had enough, and are making plans to move on.

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[Dynamo23](#) wrote: Posted 2009/06/19

at 3:13 PM ET @Andrew Chisholm If you are referring to the Rogers tower that the city tried to block, then you are wrong. Telecommunications is a federal responsibility and therefore the city has/had no right in denying the permit. They only did so to cover their respective butts with the voters.

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[countryboy08](#) wrote: Posted 2009/06/19

at 1:01 PM ET It is always amazing to me how all these arrogant people can pass the condescending remarks, such as "about time" and pass sentence on what people are wearing. Just because they consider themselves superior because they are not wearing Nascar hats does not make it so.

Bottom line: Our elected officials vetoed rezoning of the property and the unelected IRAC overturned the decision. Why do we bother to have elections if the wishes of the electorate are overturned by a bunch of political appointees.

These may not be million dollar properties but they are someone's home. Obviously those who show only indifference, have never had the ignominy of having their home taken away from them in the name of greed.

- [9](#)
- [2](#)

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[Adrift](#) wrote: Posted 2009/06/19

at 12:59 PM ET Seriously though, why is there a trailer park in the middle of the city in the first place? It doesn't belong there, you wouldn't find it in any other national city, and you shouldn't. BUT why not get the city to help pay for relocation and set up a place outside of city limits for them to put their trailers?

- [4](#)

- [3](#)

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Andrew Chisholm wrote: Posted 2009/06/19

at 12:06 PM ET Why do we even bother having a city council if their decisions can be overridden so easily? Democracy can be a blindfold, a method used to make people think they have power, this appears to be the case on a civic level in PEI. Charlottetown has witnessed the power of business twice this year when its civic voice was ignored in the interest of business.

Municipal sovereignty is an issue I will be raising in the next three levels of election.

- [6](#)
- [0](#)

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jaimeharris wrote: Posted 2009/06/19

at 7:18 AM ET The IRAC Board is really Irving Oil. Irving oil organized this little tribunal for land rights issues. Check it out. Do some homework and see for yourself.

So now, it may make sense to you the way IRAC board operates. Not only are they appointed, but also, they have no educational requirements. They have no legal backgrounds to be making the decisions they are making.

If any IRAC board employee has a degree in Law or economics...please come forward.

IRAC is the bully organization for Irving. They are responsible for putting many small businesses out of business so why not throw people out of their homes.

- [9](#)
- [12](#)

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- Previous
- [1](#)
- [2](#)
- [3](#)
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