

Contest exposes what EIA is paying for

June 7, 2013 | [Winnipeg Free Press](#)

The Employment and Income Assistance Advocates Network has launched a contest to find the worst housing that is paid for by EIA. The contest follows on recent efforts calling for an increase in the EIA shelter allowance to 75 per cent of the median market rent.

A perfect storm for unsafe and substandard housing has been created with a Winnipeg vacancy rate below one per cent, low shelter allowance rates and no EIA inspection of rental properties. The 2013 provincial budget added \$20 per month for some Employment and Income Assistance recipients who qualify for RentAid. But that's not nearly enough, members of the EIA Advocates Network say.

The EIA Advocacy Network says it is hosting this contest to help build awareness of the living conditions many individuals and families on welfare are forced to live in, and to foster a collective voice amongst those who experience these conditions on a daily basis and who often fear eviction for complaining of their housing conditions. The contest will have three housing categories and locations will not be identified.

[For contest rules click here.](#)

Judges for the contest include: Mario Lopes (Winnipeg Landlord), Ernest Merasty (Winnipeg Tenant), Carol Sanders (Winnipeg Free Press Reporter), and Ian Wishart (MLA and Opposition critic of Housing/Community Development).

For more on this story, [click here](#).

Posted on [WinnipegRentNet.ca](#)

