

City-ordered repairs progressing but slowly

Some tenants say living conditions are getting better, others haven't noticed an improvement.

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By Hank Daniszewski
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The tenants of two Cheyenne Avenue apartment buildings in London are starting to see improvements, but progress is slow.

Landlord Elijah Elieff was supposed to have made extensive repairs to plaster, plumbing, flooring and appliances in 96 and 105 Cheyenne Ave. by Feb. 15.

City building inspector Richard Cadwallader said Wednesday the repairs are progressing slowly but steadily. He estimates about 75 per cent of the repairs in 95 Cheyenne and about 60 per cent of the work in 105 Cheyenne are done.

FAIR EFFORT: "He's made a fair effort. He is trying to do the work. There are ways of getting it done faster, but he's taken it upon himself to do most of the work with a helper."

Heng Sdoung, who lives in 95 Cheyenne with her son and aunt, says conditions have improved. Her ceiling has been plastered, tiling around a patio door has been replaced and fumigation has eradicated cockroaches.

The Lim family at 105 Cheyenne isn't as lucky. Their stove and fuse box have been fixed but the tiling on their floor has not been replaced and painting has not been done.

Lim Phonsothea said badly cracked plaster around a patio door was repaired about three weeks ago but large chunks of the new plaster have already fallen out.

Richelle Cooper, who also lives at 105 Cheyenne, said a tap in her apartment is leaking at the base and soaking the floor. Tiling for the bedroom floor has



Morris Lamont/The London Free Press

Lim Phonsothea and her 17-month-old son, Malavy, look out the patio door in their first-floor apartment on Wednesday. They had the plaster around the door repaired three weeks ago but it is already falling out.

never been installed.

PLUMBING NOT FINISHED: Cadwallader said Elieff has done most of the plaster work, repaired some counter tops and replaced some lights and tiling in the common areas. "He hasn't done all the plumbing jobs yet and we are going ask him to move on that to get it finished."

There have been no official inspections of the buildings since Feb. 21 but building inspectors

stop by regularly to make sure work is progressing.

Elieff has not started exterior work, including repair of sidewalks and painting. The deadline for those repairs is May 30. He could not be reached for comment.

The city's building inspectors have been ordering Elieff to complete the repairs for several years. He was fined \$6,000 last year for not completing repairs ordered in May, 1987.