

# Move to East Coast turns into a bad drug trip for Metro reporter

**Halifax.** All of Kristen Lipscombe's belongings seized when nearly \$9M worth of pot and heroin found in moving truck



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Most Canadians who have had to relocate from one point of our vast country to another know that a big move will come with at least one glitch.

In Kristen Lipscombe's case, the glitch came in the form of nearly \$9 million worth of hash, pot and heroin hidden aboard the moving truck that picked up all her worldly goods in Calgary on June 3.

"All you can do is laugh," said Lipscombe on Monday — her first day on the job as Metro Halifax's new sports reporter. "I have to have a positive attitude and look at it as another life experience and a really good story."

Lipscombe has moved sev-



Kristen Lipscombe sits in her bare condominium in Halifax on Monday. JEFF HARPER/METRO IN HALIFAX

eral times in her life, so she wasn't entirely surprised when the truck didn't arrive in Halifax as scheduled last Thursday.

But the reason she got from the moving company the next day — Friday the 13th, no less — was a shock.

"It was literally, 'We have

some not-so-great news for you,'" said Lipscombe. "My first thought was, 'There was some sort of accident — my stuff's all over the highway.'"

In fact, Lipscombe's stuff was safely aboard the truck — but was surrounded by boxes of pot and bricks of heroin.

It was all seized at the Edmonton airport by members of the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Team, who found more drugs in a storage facility.

Five men — three from Edmonton and two from Chilliwack, B.C. — were arrested, one of whom itemized and

signed for all of Lipscombe's belongings in her Calgary condo.

Lipscombe says it's a funny story in some ways — but not in others.

"I have, obviously, individuals who shouldn't be trusted dealing with all of my personal

## Quoted

"I'm concerned about my personal belongings.... I don't know how they've been handled, I don't know if all my boxes have been opened and sorted through, if they've gone through my skivvies."

Kristen Lipscombe

belongings. It's disturbing," she said.

Information has been hard to come by, but it appears Lipscombe's goods have been released, and are on their way to Halifax.

She said she has enough to get by for a few days, but is hoping it arrives sooner rather than later — and with some kind of discount.

"Moving is one of the most stressful life events ... so add on the fact that my stuff is in the middle of some drug investigation, and that's the icing on the cake," she said.