

August 7, 2020

IIU terminates investigation into serious injury during an RCMP arrest

The Independent Investigation Unit (IIU) has terminated its investigation into an incident that occurred on July 22, 2020, where, during the course of an arrest by RCMP, a male sustained a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

On July 22, RCMP responded to a call about a potentially armed and barricaded male at a residence in Riding Mountain National Park. As officers contemplated breaching the front door and entering the residence, the male surrendered to police. At that time, the male's gunshot injuries were noted, and the male was transported to Health Sciences Centre (HSC) in Winnipeg for treatment.

Pursuant to IIU regulation 99/2015 and The Police Services Act, the IIU is mandated to investigate any injury caused by the discharge of a firearm, and also investigate the conduct of police officers involved in such incidents.

IIU investigators reviewed RCMP officers' notes, incident reports and scene photographs, and conducted a lengthy interview with the affected male.

Based on a review of all available information, the civilian director concluded that no member of the RCMP was responsible for, nor contributed in any way, to the injuries suffered by the affected male. Therefore, there was no justification for continuing the investigation into this matter.

The affected person remains before the court on charges arising out of this incident. The civilian director's report on the IIU investigation will be made available following disposition of the charges. The details of this investigation were first announced on July 23, 2020.

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Media inquiries may be directed to:
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Information on the IIU can be found at www.iiumanitoba.ca or at www.twitter.com/IIUManitoba