

April 4, 2018

## **IIU concludes investigation into possible injury to detainee by WPS officer**

Manitoba's Independent Investigation Unit (IIU) has concluded its investigation into an incident in which an 18-year-old woman appeared to suffer a broken collarbone during a search by a Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) officer. Following the investigation, no charges will be laid against the officer.

On August 18, 2017, WPS arrested the woman on an outstanding warrant. While in a search room at the East District Station, the woman became aggressive and the female officer conducting the search used force to subdue her. When the woman later complained of a sore shoulder, she was transported to St. Boniface Hospital where police were told she had a fractured left collarbone. Although this does not meet the definition of a serious injury according to IIU regulations, the IIU civilian director determined it was in the public interest for the agency to investigate.

IIU investigators interviewed several officers who had contact with the woman at the station and during the search. However, it did not receive any written or verbal information from the officer who used force on the woman, nor from the woman herself. She refused to speak with investigators and did not consent to release her medical information to the IIU.

IIU civilian director Zane Tessler noted that investigators were significantly hampered by lack of medical evidence of injury and the absence of any direct evidence concerning the interaction between the officer and the woman, particularly the manner of force used by the officer. In his report, Tessler wrote he was "unable to conclude whether reasonable and probable grounds exist to believe any offence occurred to justify any charges against the subject officer."

The civilian director's complete report is available online at [www.iumanitoba.ca](http://www.iumanitoba.ca)

The details of this investigation were first released on August 21, 2017.

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Information on the IIU can be found at [www.iumanitoba.ca](http://www.iumanitoba.ca) or at [www.twitter.com/IIUManitoba](https://www.twitter.com/IIUManitoba)