

April 07, 2020

IIU concludes investigation into allegation of sexual assault during arrest by RCMP officers

The Independent Investigation Unit (IIU) has concluded its investigation into allegations of sexual assault during the arrest of a female by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

On June 14, 2019, RCMP notified the IIU of an incident it responded to regarding a female causing a disturbance at a Steinbach school on June 13, 2019. Officers attempted to resolve the situation by talking with the female, but when that proved ineffective, they decided to arrest the female for public disturbance. She was handcuffed and taken into custody, claiming she was touched inappropriately during the arrest.

As the matter concerns accusations of inappropriate behaviour during the course of an arrest by a police officer(s), the IIU was required to investigate in accordance with The Police Services Act. IIU investigators interviewed three civilian witnesses and two witness officers. A school surveillance video was also reviewed. None of the witnesses, nor the contents of the video, suggested the actions of the officers were in any way inappropriate.

The IIU's civilian director has concluded there is no further requirement to continue with this investigation. The matter is now closed.

The female remains before the Court on charges arising out of this incident. The civilian director's complete report will be available following disposition of the charges.

The details of this investigation were first announced on Sept. 16, 2019.

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Media inquiries may be directed to: Communications Services Manitoba, 204-945-3765

Information on the IIU can be found at www.iiumanitoba.ca or at www.twitter.com/IIUManitoba