

July 02, 2021

IIU concludes investigation into fatal motor vehicle collision in Morden

The Independent Investigation Unit (IIU) has concluded its investigation into the circumstances surrounding a fatal motor vehicle collision in Morden.

On January 23, 2021, the Morden Police Service advised the IIU of an incident that occurred around midnight on January 22. According to the notification, a Morden Police officer attempted a traffic stop. The suspects fled in their vehicle. The officer pursued the suspect vehicle, but terminated the pursuit for safety reasons. The officer later located the vehicle flipped on its side in a field. The driver and a passenger were located outside the vehicle requiring medical attention. Both individuals involved in the incident were conveyed to hospital. The adult passenger in the vehicle has since succumbed to his injuries.

The IIU assumed responsibility for this investigation in accordance with section 66(4) of The Police Services Act. As the matter involved a fatality, a request for a civilian monitor was made to the Manitoba Police Commission.

IIU investigators met with and interviewed three civilian witnesses, as well as the driver.

Investigators also reviewed:

- MPS radio transmissions and CAD dispatch records
- RCMP Collision Analyst report
- scene photographs
- notes and reports from various witness officers
- pursuit driving report
- video surveillance footage
- the driver's medical report
- pathology report on the deceased
- MPS pursuit policy

Following a detailed review of this comprehensive investigation, the civilian director concluded there is no evidence to support a finding that there was any level of contribution by any police officer as to the cause of the collision and resulting deaths and injuries. Furthermore, there is no evidence in this matter that would justify the designation of any of police officer as a subject

officer. As a result, there is no further requirement or need by IIU to continue with this investigation.

The affected person remains before the court on charges. The civilian director's report on this incident will be made available following disposition of the charges.

The details of this investigation were first announced on March 25, 2021

-30-

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

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