IIU | INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION UNIT OF MANITOBA

IN THE MATTER OF AN INVESTIGATION INTO A SERIOUS INJURY DURING SELKIRK RCMP DETENTION

FINAL REPORT OF THE CIVILIAN DIRECTOR

OF THE INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION UNIT

Acting Civilian Director:	Bruce M. Sychuk
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Introduction

On Oct. 8, 2025, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) notified the Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) of an incident.

The written notification disclosed the following information:

Written excerpt from Part 7 Notification received on Oct. 10, 2025:

On Oct. 7, 2025, RCMP received a report of a male parked in the middle of the road and dancing in traffic. Members attended and located a highly intoxicated AP who was in possession of cocaine. AP was arrested for impaired operation, cocaine possession and was transported to Selkirk Detachment.

While on route to Selkirk Detachment, AP became non-verbal and was moaning and groaning. Once at the detachment, AP was assessed by EMS and brought to the Selkirk Hospital where he was assessed and medically cleared for lodging.

On Oct 8, 2025, members were in the process of releasing AP when he complained that his ankle was broken after falling off the cell bench sometime overnight. Cell footage confirms that AP fell while in the cell alone. EMS attended cells again and indicated that AP likely broke his ankle. AP was transported back to Selkirk Hospital where it was confirmed he did suffer a broken ankle

As this matter concerned injuries to a person in custody, the IIU assumed responsibility for this investigation in accordance with Sec. 65(4) of The Police Services Act. IIU investigators were assigned to this investigation.

IIU investigators obtained the following information from the RCMP, among other items:

- notes, narratives and reports of officers
- watch guard video
- cell surveillance video
- medical reports

The civilian director declined to designate a subject officer. Further, the civilian director declined to designate any witness officers as AP was alone in the cell at the time of the injury. IIU investigators did receive a statement from AP.

Facts and Circumstances

Scene Examination

No scene examination or canvassing of the area was conducted by the IIU as the entire incident was captured on the cell surveillance camera in the Selkirk detachment.

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Interviews

Affected Person (AP)

AP was interviewed by IIU investigators on Oct. 15, 2025, and provided the following information:

AP confirmed that he was driving on the perimeter highway when he ran out of gas. He confirmed that RCMP showed up and arrested him. AP recalled being taken to the detachment and then to the hospital. He recalled that blood was drawn from his arms at the hospital. AP confirmed that the officers took him back to the detachment where he was held until he was sober.

AP said that while he was in the cell, he stumbled and broke his ankle. He did not know when it happened in the cell. AP confirmed that the officers took him back to the hospital in the morning, where they confirmed his ankle was broken. AP confirmed that next day he had surgery to repair his ankle.

AP confirmed that no officers used any inappropriate force with respect to his arrest. He also denied that any officer played a role in his injured ankle.

Other evidence

Medical Records

On the initial visit to the hospital, AP was noted to be extremely intoxicated and uncooperative with hospital staff. Records show that AP had ingested a mixture of alcohol, prescription drugs, and illegal narcotics. No injuries were noted during the assessment, except for some self-inflicted scratches to AP's arms.

On the second visit to the hospital, AP was able to communicate with hospital staff. The x-ray confirmed the ankle fracture and the need for surgery because of the degree of the injury.

Vehicle Video

In reviewing the footage from the vehicle, the following observations can be made:

1. AP was extremely intoxicated.
2. AP did not appear to have any significant injuries impeding his ability to walk.
3. No officer was seen using any use of force.

Detachment Video

In reviewing the footage from the detachment, the following observations can be made:

1. AP was very unsteady on his feet; however, there were no signs of an injury to his legs.
2. AP was able to converse with the officers and fill out some paperwork.
3. AP was seated in a chair and was compliant with officer directions.
4. No officer was seen using any force.

Cell Video

In reviewing the footage from the cell, the following observations can be made:

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1. AP could be seen walking around in the cell. He was unsteady on his feet, but there were no obvious signs of an injury to his legs.
2. AP could be seen falling awkwardly onto the cell floor. His right leg was caught under his body and he did not fall in a natural manner. Once AP's leg was out from his body, his ankle was visibly dangling. AP immediately reached to grab the ankle.
3. In the morning, officers entered the cell and assisted AP in standing up and placed him in a wheelchair. The officer pushes him out of the cell.
4. No officer was seen using any force.

Applicable Law

All relevant sections of the Criminal Code of Canada were considered with respect to this incident. Sec. 25(1) of the Criminal Code of Canada has been emphasized here for consideration:

> ***25 (1)*** *Every one who is required or authorized by law to do anything in the administration or enforcement of the law*
>
> > ***(a)*** *as a private person,*
> >
> > ***(b)*** *as a peace officer or public officer,*
> >
> > ***(c)*** *in aid of a peace officer or public officer, or*
> >
> > ***(d)*** *by virtue of his office,*
>
> *is, if he acts on reasonable grounds, justified in doing what he is required or authorized to do and in using as much force as is necessary for that purpose.*

Conclusion

Based on the evidence available in connection with the fact that no subject officer has been designated, I am satisfied that the RCMP were reasonable in their actions. AP unfortunately injured himself while intoxicated. Therefore, no charges are recommended and the IIU investigation is now completed and closed.

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