IIU | INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION UNIT OF MANITOBA

IN THE MATTER OF AN INVESTIGATION INTO ASSAULT COMPLAINT AT WINNIPEG POLICE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS

FINAL REPORT OF THE CIVILIAN DIRECTOR

OF THE INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION UNIT

Acting Civilian Director:	Ron Toews (on behalf of Bruce Sychuk)
IIU File Number:	2026-0003
Date of Release:	July 29, 2026

Introduction

On March 11, 2026, the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) 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 March 11, 2026:

On January 28, 2026, a voicemail was received on the Professional Standards Unit (PSU) Sergeant's line from AP who was calling from Milner Ridge Correctional Center. AP reported that he wished to make a complaint that excessive force was used on him New Years Day while he was in custody at Winnipeg Police Headquarters (HQ).

PSU contacted AP later that day where he provided the following information:

- *AP was arrested by WPS members for a court order violation on December 31, 2025, and transported to WPS HQ where he was lodged.*
- *AP urinated on himself causing his clothing to become wet. He was provided with a blanket by staff and removed his wet clothing.*
- *At some point during the night, he was awoken and a guard in a grey uniform told him to come with him for fingerprints.*
- *Because he was not wearing any clothing, AP felt embarrassed and did not want to leave the cell and asked to speak with a supervisor.*
- *WO1 shouted out to the room, "Hey SO, I got someone who refuses to go for fingerprints".*
- *SO then entered the holding cell, jumped onto the ledge where AP had been sleeping and hit him about both sides of his head with his hand. AP received a bloodied nose as a result and later complained about a sore ear.*
- *AP was escorted for fingerprints and transported to the Provincial Remand Center before ultimately held in custody at Milner Ridge.*
- *AP was able to provide a brief description of both the WO1 and SO.*

AP explained that he had also been in contact with LERA about his complaint and would decide who he would like to investigate.

On February 20, 2026, AP filed a complaint with LERA.

On March 6th, 2026, a LERA investigator emailed PSU and advised that he had taken a statement from AP, however, AP had decided that he wanted PSU to investigate.

On March 9th, 2026, PSU contacted LERA and requested a copy of AP's statement which was forwarded to PSU on March 11th, 2026, with AP's consent.

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As this matter concerned an assault allegation and injuries sustained while in police custody, the civilian director determined it was in the public interest for the IIU to assume the investigation under sec. 75 of the Police Services Act. IIU investigators were assigned to this investigation.

IIU investigators obtained the following information from the WPS or of their own accord:

- notes, narratives and reports of officers
- statement from AP to LERA
- prisoner logs from the Central Processing Unit (CPU)
- intake photos
- medical assessment of AP at the CPU
- video showing AP's arrest

The civilian director designated one subject officer (SO) and five witness officers (WO1 to WO5). IIU investigators also received information from AP.

Scene Examination

No scene examination or canvassing was conducted because the incident did not come to the attention of the IIU until several weeks later.

Conclusion

As the civilian director acknowledged a potential conflict, the matter was reviewed by a senior prosecutor at Manitoba Prosecution Service (MPS). The prosecutor confirmed that the IIU investigation was fulsome, because MPS was provided all relevant information. MPS concluded that the charging standard could not be met because there was no likelihood of conviction. As a result, no charges are recommended and the investigation is now closed.

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