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Case Number: 2022-0054

IIU concludes investigation into serious injury involving Manitoba First Nations Police Service

The Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) has concluded its investigation into serious injuries sustained by a male during an arrest by a Manitoba First Nations Police Service (MFNPS) officer.

On Oct. 16, 2022, MFNPS notified the IIU of an incident that had occurred earlier that day. According to the notification, at approximately 5:38 a.m., MFNPS responded to a call for service at a cemetery in Big Eddy regarding an unwelcome passenger in a vehicle who was wanted on outstanding warrants. The affected person (AP) refused to exit the vehicle, appeared to be intoxicated and was combative with police. A physical struggle ensued and a conductive energy weapon was deployed multiple times. The AP was eventually secured and transported to the Opaskwayak Cree Nation detachment. The AP was then transported to St. Anthony's General Hospital in The Pas, where he was treated for a dislocated shoulder and broken ribs.

As this matter concerned a serious injury as defined under the IIU regulations, the IIU assumed responsibility for this investigation in accordance with Sec. 66(4) of the Police Services Act.

One subject officer and five witness officers were designated. Investigators also interviewed the AP and three civilian witnesses. The investigative file was forwarded to Manitoba Prosecution Service for a Crown opinion.

In considering all the circumstances, the civilian director concluded the use of force used by the subject officer was necessary and justified to effect the lawful arrest of AP. Accordingly, the matter is now closed.

The civilian director's complete report is available at www.iiumanitoba.ca.

The details of the investigation were first announced on Oct. 17, 2022.

- 30 -

Media inquiries may be directed to:
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Information on the IIU can be found at www.iumanitoba.ca or at www.twitter.com/IIUManitoba.