

February 28, 2018

IIU concludes investigation into alleged assault by WPS officers

The Independent Investigation Unit (IIU) has concluded its investigation into an incident in which a 19-year-old woman alleged she was assaulted by two members of the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS). Neither officer will face any charges as a result of the incident.

The allegation arose after officers responded to a report of an altercation between two females on McGee Street in Winnipeg in October 2015. The woman initially complained to the Law Enforcement Review Agency that she had been tackled to the ground by one officer who stomped on her knee and had been punched in the face by a second officer. She claimed to have sustained three torn knee ligaments as a result of her encounter with police.

When the incident came to the attention of the WPS in April 2016, the police service immediately notified the IIU, which ultimately determined it was in the public interest for the agency to investigate the allegation.

In conducting their investigation, IIU investigators were aided by interviews with eight witness officers and nine civilian witnesses, and by expert opinions obtained from three medical doctors.

The completed IIU investigation file was sent to Manitoba Prosecution Services for review and advice. Following a thorough review of the IIU file, Manitoba Prosecution Services advised there is no reasonable likelihood either officer would be convicted of a Criminal Code offence. Based on this advice, neither officer will face charges.

The Civilian Director's complete report is available online at www.iumanitoba.ca. The details of this investigation were first announced on April 28, 2016.

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