

May 2, 2018

IIU concludes investigation into in-custody injury in Portage la Prairie

The Independent Investigation Unit (IIU) has concluded its investigation into the injuries sustained by a woman while in the custody of Portage la Prairie RCMP. The IIU has concluded no charge should be laid against the subject officer.

On August 12, 2017, a 33-year-old woman was arrested on Long Plain First Nation for impaired driving, breach of bail conditions and outstanding warrants and was transported to the Portage RCMP detachment. While there, an officer attempted to remove her handcuffs. She resisted and stepped up onto a nearby bench. The officer pulled her down from the bench and she fell to the floor, sustaining a cut near her eyebrow, and was transported to hospital for treatment.

Although her injuries were not serious as defined by IIU regulations, the civilian director determined it was in the public interest for the IIU to investigate.

Investigators interviewed the injured woman and received information from two witness officers. The IIU was significantly aided in its investigation by video that captured the woman from the time she arrived at the detachment through to the time of her injury. The video contradicted the information provided by the woman and showed the subject officer did not use unreasonable or excessive force in his dealings with her.

The civilian director's complete report is available online at www.iumanitoba.ca. The details of this investigation were first announced on August 17, 2017.

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