

January 18, 2019

IIU concludes investigation into fatal RCMP shooting

Manitoba's Independent Investigation Unit (IIU) has concluded its investigation into a police-involved death that occurred near Lake Manitoba First Nation.

On November 14, 2017, an RCMP officer was transporting a remanded prisoner by van from Lundar to Winnipeg. During a physical altercation, the male prisoner assaulted the police officer and was shot by the officer, but then gained control of the officer's firearm and fled the scene in the unmarked police vehicle. RCMP commenced a search and the man was located on highway 68 near Lake Manitoba First Nation. A lengthy pursuit ensued, ending when the male's vehicle entered a ditch. During the course of his arrest, the male was shot by two members of the RCMP Emergency Response Team and was pronounced deceased at the scene.

As this incident involved the death of a person resulting from the actions of police, IIU was mandated to investigate.

The IIU investigation included statements from numerous witnesses--both police and civilian—video from RCMP vehicles, and firearm examinations. Following completion of the IIU investigation, an expert in police use of force was engaged and requested to provide an opinion on the actions and tactics employed in both shooting situations.

Following receipt of the expert's report, IIU forwarded its complete investigation file to Manitoba Prosecution Services, requesting that it review the file and provide its opinion. Prosecution Services advised IIU that neither shooting scenario met the prosecution charging standard in that there would be no reasonable likelihood of conviction in either case and, accordingly, no charges would be authorized against any of the three subject officers.

The final report summarizing the IIU investigation is available at www.iiumanitoba.ca. The details of this investigation were first released on November 15, 2017.

There will also be an inquest into this death, as required under the *Fatality Inquiries Act*.

- 30 -

Media inquiries may be directed to:
Barbara Czech
Communications, Independent Investigation Unit
204-803-9644
bczech@mts.net