

March 26, 2020

IIU concludes investigation into alleged erratic operation of a motor vehicle by RCMP member

The Independent Investigation Unit (IIU) has concluded its investigation into an incident in which a member of the RCMP was alleged to have been operating a motor vehicle in an erratic and dangerous manner. The officer will not face any charges as a result of this investigation.

On June 12, 2019, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) notified the Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) of this allegation by a RCMP member at or near Neepawa, Manitoba, occurring on May 22, 2019. The IIU civilian director determined it was in the public interest to investigate this incident.

The IIU investigators interviewed three civilian witnesses and one witness officer. All three witnesses observed different pieces of what they described as erratic driving by the police officer. The majority of the erratic driving was observed by one civilian witness, who observed it in their rear view mirror. Another civilian witness initially believed that weather conditions might have played a role in the erratic driving observed. There were vague descriptions as to the duration of the erratic driving. All three witnesses are very reluctant to attend Court and testify. The witness officer, who had direct contact with the police officer observed no signs or incidents of erratic driving on the part of police officer during his contact with him.

In his report on the investigation, IIU Civilian Director Zane Tessler was not satisfied that there was sufficient and cogent evidence available to satisfy the necessary standard of reasonable grounds to believe an offence has occurred.

The civilian director's complete report is available online at www.iiumanitoba.ca. The details of this investigation were first announced on September 17, 2019.



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/IUManitoba