

August 27, 2020

IIU terminates investigation into in-custody injury in Little Grand Rapids

The Civilian Director of the Independent Investigation Unit (IIU), Zane Tessler, has terminated an investigation into an injury sustained by a 14-year-old male while in custody.

As previously released, on July 21, 2020, according to the RCMP notification, a male was taken into custody and placed in a cell. A few hours later, the male advised the RCMP that he hurt his hand while in a cell. The male was taken to the nursing station for treatment of his injury, where it was confirmed he had broken his knuckle. Although the injury sustained was not a serious injury, the IIU civilian director determined it was in the public interest for the agency to investigate.

IIU investigators commenced an investigation, gathering and reviewing cell video, officers and cell guard notes and incident reports. Interviews were also conducted with the 14-year-old affected person and a civilian witness.

Based on preliminary investigations, the Civilian Director has determined that there is no connection between the actions of police and the self-inflicted injuries sustained by the affected person. As such, the civilian director has determined that it is no longer in the public interest to continue an investigation into this matter. Accordingly the IIU investigation has been terminated and the file is closed.

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