

IIU concludes investigation into death following an incident with Winnipeg Police Service

The Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) has concluded its investigation into a death following an incident with Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) officers.

On July 5, 2023, WPS notified the IIU of an incident that had occurred earlier that day. According to the notification, at approximately 9:30 a.m., officers located a stolen vehicle parked at a housing complex on Robson Street. Officers attempted to arrest the lone adult male occupant but he resisted. A use-of-force encounter ensued, during which conducted energy weapons were deployed. After the male was taken into custody, he became unresponsive. Officers requested emergency medical services and initiated CPR. Life-saving measures, including multiple doses of naloxone, were administered. The male was transported in critical condition to St. Boniface Hospital, where he was pronounced deceased.

The IIU assumed responsibility for this investigation in accordance with Sec. 65(4) of the Police Services Act. As the matter involved a fatality, a request for a civilian monitor was made to the Manitoba Police Commission. No subject officers were designated. Investigators obtained statements from nine witness officers and seven civilian witnesses.

Following due consideration of all the circumstances and evidence, the civilian director concluded the officers were in the lawful execution of their duties and the use of force was reasonable. Therefore, no charges are recommended against the witness officers. The IIU investigation is completed and the matter is now closed.

The civilian director's complete report is available at www.iumanitoba.ca.

The details of the investigation were first announced on July 6, 2023.

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