IIU | INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION UNIT OF MANITOBA

October 5, 2026
Case Number: 2026-0011

IIU concludes investigation into serious injuries sustained in RCMP custody in Steinbach

The Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) has concluded its investigation into serious injuries sustained by an adult male while in Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) custody in Steinbach.

On May 19, the RCMP notified the IIU of an incident that occurred on May 15, at approximately 4:35 p.m. According to the notification, Steinbach RCMP officers attended the cell block at the Steinbach detachment after receiving a report that a male prisoner had covered the cell camera with a wet blanket and had an edged weapon tucked into his pants.

Officers gave the male verbal commands to get on his knees, drop the weapon in his hand and turn away so he could be handcuffed and a safety search of him and the cell could be completed. The male refused to comply after being asked several times, clenched his fists and refused to drop the weapon.

Officers took the male to the ground. He continued to refuse to comply with verbal commands and was struck in the face. He complained of pain in his face and was transported to Bethesda Regional Health Centre, then to Health Sciences Centre (HSC) Winnipeg. While at HSC Winnipeg, medical staff determined that he had facial fractures and he was referred to a plastic surgeon.

As this matter concerned injuries while in custody, the IIU assumed responsibility for this investigation in accordance with Sec. 65(4) of The Police Services Act. IIU investigators were assigned to this investigation.

The civilian director designated one subject officer and four witness officers. A police associate provided a statement, and investigators also spoke with the affected person.

Following due consideration of all the circumstances, the civilian director will not be authorizing charges. The IIU investigation is now completed and closed.

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

The details of the investigation were first announced on May 20.

- 30 -

Media inquiries may be directed to:
Communications and Engagement
Email: newsroom@gov.mb.ca

Information on the IIU can be found at www.iiumanitoba.ca or at https://x.com/IIUManitoba