

January 29, 2019

IIU concludes investigation into injury during RCMP arrest in Nelson House

Manitoba's Independent Investigation Unit (IIU) has concluded its investigation into a police-related injury in Nelson House. It has determined the involved RCMP officer should face no charges.

On July 28, 2018, RCMP were called to a home in Nelson House, Manitoba to deal with an aggressive family member who was intoxicated, violent and armed with a knife. During the course of arresting the 20-year-old male, one officer used his baton to strike the man once in the hand holding the knife. The man dropped the knife and was arrested under the Mental Health Act. He was subsequently taken to the Nelson House nursing station where it was determined he had sustained a fracture to his right hand.

Although this injury is not considered serious under IIU regulations, the civilian director determined it was in the public interest for the IIU to investigate.

The man told IIU he had little recollection of the incident as he had been drinking heavily. Four civilian witnesses—all family members of the man—were interviewed and two told IIU investigators that officers had deployed a conductive energy weapon (Taser) prior to striking their relative with a baton. However, the IIU found no evidence that either of the two officers who attended the residence was in possession of a Taser weapon.

The IIU civilian director found the force used by the subject officer was necessary and reasonable in the circumstances and no grounds exist to lay charges.

The final report summarizing the IIU investigation is available at www.iumanitoba.ca. The details of this investigation were first released on July 31, 2018.

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