

July 15, 2016

IIU concludes investigation into RCMP-involved fatality on Peguis First Nation

The Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) has concluded its investigation into a police-involved death that occurred on the Peguis First Nation last September.

On September 4, 2015, Fisher Branch and Peguis RCMP detachments responded to reports of gunfire, two injured people, and a vehicle in a ditch. Four officers attended the scene, heard a male's voice coming from inside the vehicle, and attempted to communicate with the occupant. Officers then heard another gunshot, approached the vehicle and smashed its rear window to see inside. The lone occupant was found deceased.

As this incident involved a fatality, the IIU assumed responsibility for the investigation, as required by *The Police Services Act*.

Also as required under the Act, a civilian monitor was appointed by the Manitoba Police Commission. The IIU held monthly briefings with the civilian monitor throughout the course of its investigation.

IIU Civilian Director Zane Tessler received the investigative files and found no evidence that any of the RCMP officers did, or failed to do, anything that caused or contributed to the death of the affected person. He noted the evidence shows the officers did everything possible to de-escalate the situation but were not able to prevent the death.

The complete report of the civilian director is available online at www.iiumanitoba.ca

The details of this investigation were first released on September 8, 2015.

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