

November 24, 2016

IIU Concludes Investigation into Injury During Detention at Main Street Project

The Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) has completed its investigation into an injury received during the arrest and detention of a person at the Main Street Project detoxification centre in Winnipeg. The IIU has concluded there are no grounds to justify any charges against police.

The incident occurred on March 25, 2016. After arresting a man under *The Intoxicated Persons Detention Act*, police transported him to the Main Street Project, where he became belligerent and abusive to the two arresting officers. One officer forcibly pushed him into a cell and, as the officer was trying to close the door, the man grabbed it, resulting in injuries to his right hand when his fingers lodged between the door jamb and cell door as it was closing.

The details of this investigation were first released on April 22, 2016. Contrary to the initial notification information, the injured man did not suffer any amputation to his injured fingers. Rather, he received sutures to repair a laceration and had the nail of the middle finger on his right hand reattached.

Under *The Police Services Act*, the IIU is required to investigate whenever serious injuries may have resulted from the actions of a police officer. Serious injuries, as defined in regulations, include the loss of any part of the body.

IIU Civilian Director Zane Tessler concluded the subject officer used necessary force that was reasonable in the circumstances. In his report, Tessler said the man suffered a serious injury to his fingers through the application of force but bears responsibility for placing his hand in a situation where harm could and did result.

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

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