

September 27, 2016

IIU concludes investigation into DOPS arrest in Sandy Bay

The Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) has concluded its investigation into the injury of a prisoner following an arrest on the Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation and determined there was no fault on the part of any police officer.

The Dakota Ojibway Police Service (DOPS) advised the IIU that officers attended a home on the First Nation on April 2, 2016 to execute an arrest. The male suspect surrendered without incident and was taken first to the Sandy Bay detachment, then to the RCMP cells in Portage la Prairie.

The prisoner later alleged that he sustained injuries. He was taken to Portage hospital on April 4 and was admitted for treatment.

The IIU investigated and received reports and closed circuit video from both police agencies. The video showed the lodging at the Sandy Bay detachment, transfer to Portage la Prairie RCMP, the lodging in Portage detachment, and transfer to hospital.

After reviewing the files and video, the IIU civilian director concluded the affected person's injuries resulted from both a pre-existing medical condition and self-inflicted actions. Zane Tessler wrote there is no evidence any officer contributed in any way to the suspect's injuries, nor denied him necessary treatment for those injuries.

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

The details of this investigation were first released on April 11, 2016.

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