



**IN THE MATTER OF AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE DEATH OF AN ADULT  
MALE IN POLICE PRESENCE IN BLOODVEIN**

**FINAL REPORT OF THE CIVILIAN DIRECTOR**  
**OF THE INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION UNIT**

Acting Civilian Director:	Bruce M.
IIU File Number:	Sychuk
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## **Introduction**

On March 8, 2023, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) notified the Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) of an incident.

The written notification disclosed the following information:

Excerpt from the Part 7 notification received from RCMP on March 8, 2023:

*On March 7, 2023, at 2:20 p.m., Bloodvein RCMP were contacted by CW2 reporting that the AP was intoxicated causing a disturbance in Bloodvein, Manitoba.*

*CW1 was babysitting two children at the residence when she heard noises coming from AP's bedroom and contacted CW2 around 2:00 p.m. for help.*

*WO1 and WO2 attended the residence arriving at 2:33 p.m. AP was located in a bedroom facedown on the floor. A strong odor of liquor and vomit were present.*

*WO1 and WO2 placed AP into a recovery position where he was observed opening his eyes and moving his head. AP was breathing and had a pulse.*

*With no ambulance services available, WO1 and WO2 carried AP to the police vehicle laying him on his side and transported him to the Bloodvein nursing station located approximately two minutes from the residence. Officers departed the residence with AP at 2:45 p.m. and arrived at the nursing station at 2:48 p.m.*

*AP was immediately assessed by medical staff where it was discovered upon entering the treatment room, he no longer had a pulse. Further life saving measures were attempted however AP was pronounced deceased at 3:17 p.m.*

*There was no use of force utilized by officers.*

*An autopsy has been scheduled at Health Sciences Center. A date and time have not yet been established.*

As this matter concerned the death of an individual while in the custody of the RCMP, the IIU assumed responsibility for this investigation in accordance with Sec. 65(1) of The Police Services Act. IIU investigators were assigned to this investigation.

IIU investigators obtained the following information from the RCMP, among other items:

- notes, summaries and narratives of officers
- scene/AP photos
- autopsy report
- 911 call/radio communication
- statements taken at the time by RCMP of the civilian witnesses

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The civilian director declined to designate a subject officer in this matter as the AP's medical concern was already initiated prior to the officer's attendance. The civilian director designated two witness officers (WO1 and WO2). The IIU also interviewed three civilian witnesses.

## **Facts and Circumstances**

### **Scene Examination**

RCMP provided six photos of AP'S bedroom and four photos of AP from the nursing station. The bedroom images showed signs of vomit. Nothing out of the ordinary was seen in any of the images.

## **Summary of Witness Interviews**

### **Civilian Witnesses**

#### **Civilian Witness 1 (CW1)**

CW1 was interviewed by IIU investigators on March 21, 2023, and provided the following information:

CW1 was at the same residence as AP babysitting children. CW1 did not have much interaction with AP prior to the incident, but did observe AP come out of his bedroom around 1:30 p.m. to grab some food. AP went back to his bedroom.

Soon after, CW1 heard moaning from AP's room. CW1 thought that AP might have been rolling around on the floor of his room. CW1 called CW2 to assist. CW2 went to the residence and entered AP's bedroom. AP was lying on the floor and CW2 immediately called the RCMP.

CW1 noted that the RCMP arrived shortly after the call and went into AP's room, where he was unconscious lying on the floor. RCMP carried AP out of the residence and into their vehicle.

CW1 was contacted by the RCMP later in the day asking if she knew what AP had eaten prior to the emergency call. CW1 provided the RCMP with the bowl.

#### **Civilian Witness 2 (CW2)**

CW2 was interviewed by IIU investigators on March 21, 2023, and provided the following information:

CW2 received a call from CW1 asking for assistance as AP was making a lot of noise in the residence. CW2 went to the residence and heard AP in the bedroom making noises. CW2 went to the bedroom and observed AP on the floor making noises. CW2 thought AP was intoxicated and told AP to settle down and closed the door.

CW2 had already spoken with AP's dad, who advised CW2 to contact RCMP if AP was intoxicated. CW2 contacted RCMP requesting their attendance. Once RCMP arrived, they attended to AP's bedroom. The officers were trying to communicate with AP, but he did not respond. One of the officers checked AP's pulse and noted that he was still alive.

CW2 confirmed that the officers took AP out of the residence with a plan to take him to the nursing station. Roughly half an hour later, CW2 was informed that AP had passed away.

CW2 confirmed that the officers were not abusive to AP and were only trying to assist AP and his well-being.

### Civilian Witness 3 (CW3)

CW3 was interviewed by IIU investigators on March 23, 2023, and provided the following information:

CW3 was working at the nursing station when AP was brought in for clearance by the RCMP. CW3 noted that the AP was unconscious and did not have a pulse. CW3 commenced CPR on AP; however, it was not successful.

CW3 did not observe anything of concern in relation to the officer's care of AP.

### Witness Officers

#### Witness Officer 1 (WO1)

WO1 was interviewed by IIU investigators on April 20, 2023, and provided the following information:

WO1 and WO2 attended to the residence on an intoxicated person call. WO1 and WO2 met CW2 at the residence and were invited into the residence to check on the AP. WO1 knocked on AP's door with no response. WO1 and WO2 pushed open AP's bedroom door and observed AP lying on the floor face down. WO1 turned AP over into the recovery position and tried to arouse AP, without success. WO1 noted that AP's chest was moving at this point.

WO1 and WO2 realized immediately that AP needed to be taken to the nursing station. WO1 and WO2 had to carry AP to their vehicle as there were no emergency services in the area.

WO1 and WO2 took the AP to the nursing station which is approximately a two-minute drive from the residence. Upon arrival at the nursing station, CW3 assisted AP and noted that he no longer had a pulse. WO1 noted that medical services took over care of AP at that point.

#### Witness Officer 2 (WO2)

WO2 was interviewed by IIU investigators on April 20, 2023, and provided the following information:

WO2 confirmed that they received a call to assist with an intoxicated person and went the residence where AP was situated.

WO2 also confirmed that when they attended to AP's bedroom, he was lying face down on the floor unconscious. WO2 noted that AP had a pulse and his chest was moving up and down when they put AP in the recovery position.

WO2 confirmed that both officers deemed AP to be extremely intoxicated and in need of medical attention. WO2 confirmed that they drove AP to the nursing station in their police vehicle.

WO2 confirmed that CW3 took care and control of AP at the nursing station, and that they were advised of his passing shortly thereafter.

WO2 returned to the residence and obtained statements from CW1 and CW2.

### **Other Evidence**

#### **Autopsy Report**

The cause of death was listed as complications from chronic alcoholism.

### **Conclusion**

In reviewing all the evidence available in connection with the autopsy report, I have concluded AP's death was tragically unavoidable. Therefore, no charges are recommended and the IIU investigation is now completed and closed.