

FINAL REPORT: IIU concludes investigation following DOPS arrest in Sandy Bay

On April 5, 2016, the Independent Investigation Unit (IIU) was formally notified by the Dakota Ojibway Police Service (DOPS) of an incident which occurred on or about April 2, 2016 in Sandy Bay. It involved an allegation that an individual (the “affected person” – AP) sustained injuries while lodged in the Sandy Bay detachment or later at the the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) cells in Portage la Prairie. AP was transferred to Portage hospital on April 4th and admitted for treatment.

IIU investigators were deployed to Portage la Prairie on April 7, 2016. On arrival, IIU investigators received the DOPS file which included reports and the agency’s closed circuit video (CCTV) which showed both the lodging and transfer to Portage la Prairie RCMP detachment. On April 8th investigators attended the Portage la Prairie RCMP detachment and received their reports and CCTV which showed the lodging and transfer to Portage hospital.

The IIU assumed jurisdiction based upon information supplied by the DOPS.

Following a detailed review of the investigative file materials, I am satisfied that the AP’s injuries resulted from both a pre-existing medical condition and self-inflicted acts. There is no evidence of any DOPS or RCMP officer applying any force to AP, contributing in any fashion to his injuries, or denying or preventing AP from receiving any necessary treatment for his injuries while in their care and custody. I am therefore satisfied this matter falls outside the mandate of IIU and there are no grounds to proceed further with this investigation. This matter is now closed.

Final report prepared by:
Zane Tessler, civilian director
Independent Investigation Unit
September 23, 2016