

November 1, 2024
Case Number: 2024-0055

IIU investigating injury of a male detained in Opaskwayak Cree Nation

The Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) is investigating the circumstances surrounding the detention of an adult male in Opaskwayak Cree Nation (OCN).

On Oct. 30, the Manitoba First Nations Police Service (MFNPS) notified the IIU of an incident involving injuries to an adult male who had been in police custody. According to the notification, on Oct. 28, First Nation safety officers (FNSO) attended a licensed establishment in OCN regarding a call for an intoxicated male. While detaining the male, he became un-cooperative and an FNSO fell on top of him. MFNPS officers were called to assist with the detention of the male and transported him to the MFNPS police detachment in OCN, where he was lodged overnight under the Intoxicated Persons Detention Act.

When the male was about to be released the following day, he complained of a sore chest. Emergency medical services were notified and transported the male to St. Anthony's General Hospital in The Pas, where he was diagnosed with fractured ribs and a punctured lung. The male was later transported to the Health Science Centre Winnipeg for treatment.

As internal injuries that require hospital admission are defined as a serious injury under the IIU regulation, the IIU is mandated to investigate.

Witnesses or individuals who have information or video footage that may assist the investigation are asked to contact the IIU toll-free at 1-844-667-6060.

The investigation is ongoing so no further details will be provided at this time.

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Media inquiries may be directed to:
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Information on the IIU can be found at www.iiumanitoba.ca or at www.twitter.com/IIUManitoba