



Royal Newfoundland Constabulary
Office of the Chief of Police

September 13, 2016

Statement from RNC Police Chief William Janes re: *Officer Involved Shooting*

"The Royal Newfoundland Constabulary continues to offer its condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Don Dunphy. Any premature loss of life in these types of circumstances is a tragedy and is traumatic for all persons involved. I would like to thank the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team for their work on this case.

The RNC is awaiting the report from the Saskatoon Police Service investigation regarding compliance with RNC Policies and Procedures as well as RNC Regulations. We are committed to assisting, in any way possible, any future public inquiry into this matter."

William J. Janes

Chief of Police

Safer Communities through Policing Excellence

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September 21, 2016

Statement from RNC Police Chief William J. Janes
Re: Officer Involved shooting

Any loss of life in these types of circumstances is a tragedy. We recognize that these incidents are traumatic for the family of Mr. Dunphy as well as the police officers involved.

The RCMP has determined that no criminal charges are warranted and the force used by our officer was reasonable under the circumstances. ASIRT has determined that the RCMP conducted a thorough, unbiased and objective investigation. The RNC has seen no evidence of any wrong doing on the part of our officer and we have confidence in the investigation and review conducted.

We are awaiting the report from the Saskatoon Police Service regarding their investigation. We have been verbally briefed on this matter and have been advised there have been no breaches of the RNC Policy, Procedures, or regulations. A determination whether this report can be released will be made at a later date.

We are committed to assisting, in any way possible, the upcoming public inquiry into this matter.

November 28, 2016

Speaking Notes

Re: Officer Involved Shooting

Any loss of life such as the of incident which occurred in Mitchells Brook is a tragedy. We recognize that these incidents are traumatic for the family of Mr. Dunphy as well as the police officers involved.

I have had a chance to review the various reports. The RCMP has determined that no criminal charges are warranted and the force used by our officer was reasonable under the circumstances. ASIRT an independent civilian led organization has determined that the RCMP conducted a thorough, unbiased and objective investigation.

We have received the report from the Saskatoon Police Service regarding their investigation. We have determined that there has been no breach of the RNC Policy, Procedures, or Regulations.

Since the date of this tragic loss of life Constable Smyth has been the recipient of criticism from a number of sources. Based on all the information now provided to me I believe that this criticism has been unwarranted.

During the 15 years I have known Constable Smyth I have seen him succeed many challenging work assignments. I have always known him to be conscientious and professional.

In an organization with many selfless officers he is often one of the first to step up and help people in our community who are vulnerable or in need. He is a respected police officer and has provided quality service to the community during his career.

I have seen no evidence of any wrong doing on the part of our officer and we have confidence in the RCMP and Saskatoon investigations and ASIRT review conducted.

Out of respect for the public inquiry process I do not think it is appropriate to speak to the evidence, some persons future testimony or and specifics of the incident.

Key Messages:

1. I have seen no evidence of any wrong doing on the part of our officer.
2. Out of respect for the public inquiry process I do not think it is appropriate to speak to the evidence, some persons future testimony

Q. Justice Riche comments?

A. I do not think it is appropriate to speak to some persons future testimony or and specifics of the incident. The RNC has seen no evidence of any wrong doing on the part of our officer.

I do not agree with the characterizations of Constable Smyth. I have always known him to be conscientious and professional police officer.

Q. Why did you not speak before now?

A. It would have been inappropriate to offer any comment during the investigative process. I have now had an opportunity to review the various reports and findings allowing for an informed opinion.

Q. Joe Smyth disciplinary matter?

A. It would be inappropriate for me to discuss any human resource history of any employee. It is something the inquiry may or may not deal with.

Q. Evidence question?

A. I think it would be most appropriate to let the specific evidence be addressed through the inquiry.

Q. Override Saskatoon finding?

A. The interpretation of the policy was not in keeping with the spirit and intent of the policy when it was created. The policy was designed

with the intent of preventing staff from offering their boat and motor for sale or basement apartment for rent on the RNC email system.
