

## Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner

British Columbia, Canada

Thursday, November 3, 2011

## POLICE COMPLAINT COMMISSIONER TO REVIEW THE OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING DEATH OF JEFFREY JAMES ALVIN WRIGHT

**Victoria** – The Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner today announced that it will conduct a review of the Officer involved shooting of Jeffrey James Alvin Wright, on August 6, 2010, in Langley British Columbia. Mr. Wright later succumbed to his injuries on August 7, 2010.

Pursuant to requests from the Vancouver Police Department, the external investigative agency in this matter, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Commissioner has agreed to extend the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding entered into with Municipal Police Agencies in British Columbia to review the investigation into this matter involving members of the R.C.M.P.

The OPCC recognizes the need to address public concerns regarding transparency and accountability associated with this tragic incident, and the need to bridge a gap which currently exists on an interim basis, until the Independent Investigations Office is operational next year.

Pursuant to the MOU:

- 1. The OPCC has the ability to request further investigation, and such investigation must be undertaken as a condition of a review.
- 2. The proposed standard to be applied by the OPCC is as follows:

Does the available evidence disclose a reasonable basis to consider that the conduct of an officer may constitute a criminal offence?

Stan T. Lowe, Police Complaint Commissioner 3. In the event, a matter meets the aforementioned threshold; the OPCC will submit the matter to the Criminal Justice Branch for charge assessment. The OPCC may only recommend a charge assessment and will not engage in a comprehensive assessment of the evidence in terms of the Branch's charge assessment standard.

Once a decision has been reached the Commissioner will first notify the parties directly impacted by the incident, and then to the public at large pursuant to the public interest.

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Media Contact:

Rollie Woods Deputy Police Complaint Commissioner Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner 250 356-7912