



August 1, 2017

17-16

Motor Vehicle Act Charge approved after IIO Investigation

Victoria - The BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) announced today that a charge of driving without due care and attention has been approved against a member of the RCMP in connection with an incident that occurred on Highway 6 near Vernon on the morning of August 6, 2016. The incident involved a collision between an RCMP truck driven by an on-duty member of the Lumby detachment of the RCMP, Cst. Megan Valenta, and a motorcycle.

The Independent Investigation Office (IIO) was notified of the incident and subsequently conducted an investigation.

An Information charging Cst. Valenta with a single count of driving without due care contrary to section 144 (1)(a) of the Motor Vehicle Act was sworn July 31, 2017 under file number 52164 in British Columbia Provincial Court in Vernon. An appearance in the case has been scheduled for September 14, 2017 in Vernon Provincial Court.

Following an investigation, where the Chief Civilian Director of the IIO determines that an officer may have committed an offence, the IIO submits a report to BCPS. The Chief Civilian Director does not make a recommendation on whether charges should be approved.

The Charge Assessment Guidelines applied by the BCPS in reviewing all Reports to Crown Counsel are established in Branch policy and are available online at:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/law-crime-and-justice/criminal-justice/prosecution-service/crown-counsel-policy-manual/cha-1-charge-assessment-guidelines.pdf>

As this matter is now before the Court, BCPS is unable to release additional information or comment further at this time.

Media Contact: Dan McLaughlin
Communications Counsel
Daniel.McLaughlin@gov.bc.ca
250.387.5169

To learn more about B.C.'s criminal justice system, visit the British Columbia Prosecution Service website at: gov.bc.ca/prosecutionservice or follow [@bcprosecution](https://twitter.com/bcprosecution) on Twitter.