



June 17, 2020

20-08

## Dangerous driving charges approved against Kamloops RCMP officer

**Victoria** - The BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) announced today that a charge of dangerous driving contrary to section 249 of the *Criminal Code* has been approved against Kamloops RCMP Cst. Christopher Squire. The charge relates to a police pursuit of a suspect alleged to be driving a stolen vehicle. The pursuit occurred in Kamloops on December 8, 2018.

An Information charging Cst. Squire with this offence was sworn June 17, 2020 Kamloops file # 109796. Cst. Squire has a first appearance scheduled for July 30, 2020 in Kamloops Provincial Court.

As a consequence of the injuries suffered by the suspect, the incident was investigated by the Independent Investigations Office (IIO). Following the investigation, the Chief Civilian Director of the IIO determined that there were reasonable grounds to believe that three officers involved in the pursuit and arrest had committed offences and submitted a report to the BCPS (IIO case 2018-148).

After reviewing the entirety of the evidence provided, the BCPS concluded that the charge assessment standard had only been met for the single charge of dangerous driving against Cst. Squire. A Clear Statement explaining the reasons for not approving any other charges will be released following the conclusion of proceedings arising from this charge.

The charges were approved by an experienced Crown Counsel with no prior or current connection with the officer. The charge assessment guidelines applied by the BCPS in reviewing all Reports to Crown Counsel are set out in the BCPS Crown Counsel Policy Manual and are available online at:

[www.gov.bc.ca/charge-assessment-guidelines](http://www.gov.bc.ca/charge-assessment-guidelines)

As this matter is now before the court the BCPS will have no further comment.

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