

In British Columbia, along with the IIO, there are two other independent agencies responsible for police oversight. These agencies have jurisdiction over complaints against a police officer that do not involve serious harm or death. The Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner (OPCC) is a civilian, independent office that oversees and monitors complaints and investigations involving municipal police in B.C. The Civilian Review and Complaints Commission for the RCMP (CRCC) is an independent agency that ensures that the public complaints made about the conduct of RCMP members are examined fairly and impartially.

In cases where there is the potential for both a criminal investigation carried out by the IIO and a separate investigation carried out by either the OPCC or the CRCC, the IIO investigation will generally proceed first. However – in some rare circumstances – when an IIO investigation or court proceeding ends, the incident may be subject to further oversight. Upon completion of an IIO investigation or court proceedings, materials from the IIO investigative file could be disclosed at the request of the OPCC or CRCC to aid their investigations.

For more information on how the OPCC and CRCC take forward their investigations, please refer to their websites: opcc.bc.ca and crcc-ccetp.gc.ca, respectively.

