



## Police in Thunder Bay facing accusations of 'systemic' racism

Michael Hiscock | October 4, 2016

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| Thunder Bay police face allegations of 'systemic' racism

Click the link below to listen to the interview:

<http://www.ctv.ca/video/965028>

When Stacy DeBungee's lifeless body was found in a Thunder Bay river last October, it took police only a day to rule his death as "non-criminal."

But according to DeBungee family lawyer Julian Falconer, 24 hours wouldn't have given authorities enough time to complete a postmortem. Nor did police have an idea of how Stacy ended up in the river in the first place.

To make matters even more confusing, the family says police wouldn't return their calls or answer any follow-up questions they had about the case and its investigation. And the DeBungees now think they were targets of discrimination; Stacy was a member of an indigenous community.

As a result, the family has since filed a complaint with the Office of the Independent Police Review Director, and Thunder Bay Police are now under investigation.

In the video above, Falconer describes the DeBungee case, and other incidents that have contributed to the growing belief among indigenous residents that they're not receiving equal treatment from law enforcement officials.