

## **Cornwall Victims Needed To Be Heard; Province Defending Costly Inquiry**

Cornwall AM 1220

**December 15, 2009** — The Ontario government says it was important to hold a public inquiry into rumours about a pedophile ring in Cornwall. That's despite Commissioner Normand Glaude's final report neither confirms one existed nor puts the rumours to bed. Attorney General Chris Bentley defends the \$53 million that was spent to hold the four-year public inquiry into allegations of sexual abuse by authorities in Cornwall. Bentley says the victims, their families and the entire community needed to be heard by someone who was there to listen just to them, and help stop such abuse from happening again. (Hear audio clip below) He says people should not forget the importance of allowing victims to 'have their pain truly heard.' Community Safety Minister Rick Bartolucci says like most people, he had hoped the inquiry could have determined if a pedophile ring had operated in Cornwall. But Bartolucci says no matter how thorough the report was, there would have been questions remaining from some people. For the entire report, click on "**Cornwall Public Inquiry - Final Report**" on the left side of this screen. (Files from The Canadian Press)

### **Audio transcript:**

“Don’t minimize the importance of having the victims have their pain truly heard”