

Local School Board May Apologize To Abuse Victims

Cornwall AM 1220

December 17, 2009 — An apology may be coming from the local public school board in the wake of the Cornwall Public Inquiry's final report. Commissioner Normand Glaude had recommended four institutions including the English public and Catholic school boards apologize and also locate potential victims to offer counseling and support. Director of Education David Thomas tells AM 1220 News something will be coming early in the new year. (Hear audio clip below) Thomas says they are putting a lot of the recommendations in place, including extensive background checks of new employees. While it's not in their mandate, Thomas says they plan to work with the province to arrange counseling for adult victims. In a statement, the Catholic District School Board says its reviewing the report but given the length and detail of the 14 recommendations for school boards, it won't be able to respond before the new year.

Audio clip transcript:

“Although I can’t speak for the board in this particular matter I would say the board is very seriously considering how that be done

“But what the board is contemplating right now after last night’s meeting is that we’re going to take a real hard look at an apology - a sincere and on-going apology that makes sense and brings healing and also has to have action attached to it.”