



TRC seeks documents on residential schools

Cost of documents exceeds \$60M

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The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) is taking the Harper government to court over documents the government has surrounding the residential school era.

Toronto's Julian Falconer, lawyer for the TRC, said the government has handed over a million of them, but it is far from enough.

"The million documents that have been provided are frankly, a tip of the iceberg," said Falconer.

The government is not hiding how many documents that pertain to the 140 years that residential schools operated. According to Falconer, the question is who will pay to compile and digitally prepare them? That's something that could exceed the TRC's total budget of \$60 million.

"We've been told by Canadian officials that the documents thus far, that are provided from federal archives, should not be considered either comprehensive or even representative of all of the documents that are out there," Falconer said.

The TRC is asking the Ontario Superior Court to interpret the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement to determine if it is the government's obligation.