



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:** Susan Patrick  
NACOL President & CEO  
703-752-6216, [spatrick@nacol.org](mailto:spatrick@nacol.org)

NACOL Releases *A Snapshot State of the Nation Study: K-12 Online Learning in Canada*

PHOENIX, AZ, October 27, 2008 – The North American Council for Online Learning (NACOL) released *A Snapshot State of the Nation Study: K-12 Online Learning in Canada* at the annual Virtual School Symposium today.

To date, most of what is known about K-12 online learning from the media and literature is focused upon experiences in the United States. This report is the first of many steps to provide information about K-12 online learning in Canada. This report addresses two main purposes: an examination of online learning activity at the K-12 level and how it is governed in each province and territory.

According to Susan Patrick, NACOL President & CEO, “The use of online learning in Canada is a powerful innovation that is expanding educational opportunities for students in many provinces. Canada has many rural and remote areas where students are geographically dispersed. This report provides rich data to illustrate how Canadian provinces have been innovating the delivery of K-12 education through online learning over the past ten years.”

Michael Barbour, one of the main contributing authors of the study, said, “Canada has been on the forefront of online learning and individual school districts have taken the lead in establishing strong policies to manage and deliver high quality online courses to students. There is much to learn from Canada’s success. This groundbreaking research project studies Canada and the developments in online learning north of the 49th parallel.”

The complete report is available online at: [www.nacol.org](http://www.nacol.org).

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### **About VSS**

NACOL hosts the annual Virtual School Symposium (VSS), October 26 – 28, 2008 in Glendale, AZ. It is *the* leading K-12 online learning events with 1000+ attendees. VSS brings together national, state, district, private and virtual school program experts to learn about latest trends, challenges and opportunities in e-learning and gain access to the latest research. Organizations contributing to the financial support of this cutting-edge conference on K-12 online education include eClassroom, Insight Schools, Odysseyware and Pearson Education.

### **About NACOL**

The North American Council for Online Learning (NACOL) is an international K-12 non-profit association advocating online learning to increase access to high-quality education and represents the interests of educational stakeholders, providers and students worldwide.