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***iNACOL Releases New Report, *State of the Nation: K-12 Online Learning in Canada****

AUSTIN, TX, November 17, 2009 – The International Association for K-12 Online Learning (iNACOL) released *State of the Nation Study: K-12 Online Learning in Canada* at the annual Virtual School Symposium today.

The goal of the report is to examine the K-12 distance education policies and activities in each of the Canadian provinces and territories. This was done by examining the legislation and regulations that govern K-12 distance education in each jurisdiction and describing the programs that provide online learning opportunities.

According to Susan Patrick, iNACOL President and CEO, “For more than a decade, Canadian governments have focused on the expansion of K-12 online learning to serve students in remote areas and provide new educational opportunities that engage students. The report provides a rich illustration of how Canada is poised to provide every student, regardless of their geography, with access to high-quality online learning opportunities.”

Michael Barbour, the author of the study, said, “In this year’s study, we tried to provide vignettes to help readers get a better sense of the many variations in online learning in Canada; they serve to personalize the students, teachers, schools and programs.”

K-12 online learning is growing at an estimated annual pace of 30% annually. Online learning benefits include expanding opportunity to high-quality instructors and courses, leveling the playing field for all students to access a high-quality education and transforming the learning experience with a customized and individualized instructional model.

The report was sponsored by and funded by Connections Academy. It is available online at: [www.inacol.org/research/reports](http://www.inacol.org/research/reports).

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**About iNACOL**

iNACOL is the International Association for K-12 Online Learning, a non-profit 501(c)(3) membership association based in the Washington, DC area with more than 3,400 members. iNACOL is unique in that its members represent a diverse cross-section of K-12 education from school districts, charter schools, state education agencies, non-profit organizations, colleges, universities and research institutions, corporate entities and other content and technology providers ([www.inacol.org](http://www.inacol.org)). iNACOL hosts the annual Virtual School Symposium (VSS). VSS 2009 is being held Nov. 15 – 17, 2009 in Austin, TX ([www.virtualschoolsymposium.org](http://www.virtualschoolsymposium.org)).