

For immediate release
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London area students connect to the global grid of research networks

LONDON - Approximately twenty thousand more elementary and secondary school students in the London region will soon have access to the Ontario Research and Innovation Optical Network (ORION) and other advanced research and education networks around the world, as the London District Catholic School Board turns up its connection to ORION.

“This is an excellent opportunity for our students,” said Wilma de Rond, Director of Education. “It will give them access to many new and valuable resources and it will connect them to a global grid of research and education networks. We are excited to be involved with the next generation of networking and collaboration.”

The London District Catholic School Board comprises 47 elementary and eight secondary schools, representing 21,000 students in the counties of Middlesex, Oxford and Elgin, including the cities of London, St. Thomas and Woodstock.

Other research and education institutions in the London area that are connected to ORION include the Thames Valley District School Board, the University of Western Ontario, Fanshawe College, Robarts Research Institute, the London Health Sciences Centre, and St. Joseph’s Health Care. The London District Catholic School Board is connecting to ORION through LARG*net, the London regional network.

“It’s important and exciting news that more students in the London area are connecting to ORION, which will enable them to access the rich educational resources available over the network,” said Dr. Darin Graham, ORION President and CEO.

By connecting to ORION, schools can enjoy enhanced quality videoconferencing when participating in the many distance learning programs offered by Canada’s leading cultural and educational organizations, such as the Virtual Researcher on Call (VROC) program, the Royal Ontario Museum, the Canadian Museum of Nature, and the Canadian Space Agency.

Learn more about the London District Catholic School Board at www.ldcsb.on.ca.

About ORION

Hundreds of times faster than the Internet, ORION is Ontario’s ultra high-speed research and education network. Established as a not-for-profit corporation in 2001, ORION links 1.7 million Ontario researchers, scientists, students, teachers and staff who depend on ORION for teaching and learning and to enable their research collaborations and discoveries in physics, cancer research, environmental science and technologies, social sciences and the humanities and multiple other disciplines. It connects users and institutions to each other, and through CANARIE - Canada’s advanced research and innovation network - to high-capacity research and education networks, partners and collaborators across Canada and around the world. Visit www.orion.on.ca.

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