



**For immediate release
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ORION partners with ideaCity 2010 on unique conference webcast

TORONTO – ORION is partnering with ideaCity 2010, Canada's premier "meeting of the minds" conference, to make the entire program available in a live, high definition webcast exclusively to Ontario's research and education institutions through the ORION network.

"This is very exciting and we're proud to collaborate with ideaCity to bring this world-class program and speakers to students, faculty, researchers and scientists throughout Ontario," says ORION President and CEO Phil Baker.

The program will be broadcast live from the Koerner Hall at the Royal Conservatory of Music's TELUS Centre June 16, 17 and 18, 2010. It brings together some 50 iconic leaders from media, music, literature, film, politics and pop culture, including writer Margaret Atwood, pop culture guru Faith Popcorn, singer Judy Collins, author Erica Jong, and Olympic gold medallist Ashleigh McIvor, among others.

For the first time, ideaCity will be delivered through a live high definition webcast over ORION, available for free to over 90 ORION-member academic and research institutions across Ontario. Some institutions, such as the Ontario College of Art & Design (OCAD), expect to schedule group viewing sessions for students, staff and faculty.

ORION is also collaborating with ideaCity to make the webcast available through CANARIE to other research and education networks in Canada, including BCnet and Cybera in Alberta.

"In keeping with the cutting-edge spirit of ideaCity, we are delivering our program of ideas over a series of research and education networks that are as technically compelling as the speakers themselves," explains McLean Greaves, ZoomerMedia Vice-President, Interactive Content.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for Ontario's research and education ORION community," says Baker. "We're proud to partner with ideaCity to bring this excellent program and speakers to our member institutions and those who would otherwise not be able to participate."

More information on the ideaCity webcast will be made available to ORION institutions. Learn more at www.ideacityonline.com.

About ideaCity

ideaCity, also known as 'Canada's Premiere Meeting of the Minds', is an eclectic gathering of artists, adventurers, authors, cosmologists, doctors, designers, entertainers, filmmakers, inventors, magicians, musicians, scientists and technologists. Fifty of the planet's brightest minds converge on Toronto each June to speak to a highly engaged audience. Only 700 are privileged to attend. Produced and presented by Moses Znaimer, ideaCity is not themed around any one topic, issue or business. There are no scripted speeches or, breakout or parallel sessions. Rather, everyone is in one place and in on the same narrative.

About ORION

The Ontario Research and Innovation Optical Network (ORION) is Ontario's ultra high-speed research and education network. It 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. ORION links 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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