FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WFCP Declaration Builds a Better Future for Students

Beijing, China (October 26, 2014) – Representatives of the World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics (WFCP) gathered in Beijing today to sign a declaration of principles during the World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics’ seventh world congress. The Beijing Declaration marks the first unanimously approved World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics (WFCP) declaration since the organization’s founding in 1999.

Entitled Building a Better Future, the Declaration entrenches the Federation’s beliefs about education, affirms its members’ commitment to shared principles and serves as a beacon as we pursue our respective journeys in the transformation of professional and technical education.

Highlights of the declaration include:

- Signatories’ belief that colleges, institutes and polytechnics contribute to the development of individuals and communities by offering the opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills.
- The Federation’s commitment to increase access to post-secondary education and improve quality in both academics and services.
- The Federation’s determination to develop deeper partnerships, especially with industry, to enhance applied research and drive innovation.

“For WFCP members, the desire to build a better world, to train skilled workers and responsible citizens has never been more relevant,” says Denise Amyot, Chair of the WFCP and President and CEO of Colleges and Institutes Canada. “We call upon our respective governments, the organizations and businesses whose workforces we educate as well as members of our communities and international agencies to continue providing support. We are confident that by working together we can build a better future through the delivery of highly esteemed vibrant and responsive professional and technical education and training.”

Following the congress, WFCP members are submitting the Beijing Declaration to their respective national authorities and to international organizations.

The World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics is the strong united voice of an international network of colleges, polytechnics, university colleges as well as regional and national associations dedicated to applied education, skills development and human development. Its mandate is to advocate and collectively influence the development of policy in all areas that impact on human resources development and lifelong learning. The WFCP forges strategic partnerships between members, along with the international business and learning community and offers a forum to share best practices in the applied learning sector.
For more information please contact:

Thierry Hardy – WFCP Secretariat - +1 613-746-2222 Ext. 3146 – thierry.hardy@wfcp.org

**Backgrounder:** *WFCP – Beijing Declaration: Building a Better Future*