PRESS RELEASE
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ACPET and the Career Industry Council of Australia forge relationship.

The Australian Council of Private Education and Training (ACPET) and the Career Industry Council of Australia (CICA) forged a historic relationship yesterday, which will support improved information flows to career practitioners about quality private tertiary education providers. Both Federal and State Governments have acknowledged the need for the community to acquire better information about the range of training providers and this initiative delivers on this need.

ACPET is the peak industry association, representing over 1,100 private tertiary institutions across Australia. Leadership in the career development field principally rests with the Career Industry Council of Australia (CICA), a not for profit national entity. CICA members include ten practitioner associations and one peak support organization, with over 4,500 members collectively.

On 14 June 2012, and as witnessed by over 50 Victorian ACPET members, ACPET and CICA formalised their partnership through a Memorandum of Understanding, which will form the platform for joint future ventures between the two associations.

“We are delighted to be working closely with CICA”, said Claire Field, ACPET’s Chief Executive Officer. “Ultimately, communities and learners will be the winners – by sharing information about ACPET’s quality members with CICA practitioners, students will be better supported to make informed tertiary education choices. This is only one of several national and state based career agency alliances that will be forged by ACPET during 2012/13, through our Careers Engagement Strategy.”

One of the first joint initiatives is to support the enhancing of professional standards for Australian tertiary education teachers and trainers and career development practitioners. “Using each association’s grass root expertise through our collective 5,000 plus membership base can only prove to be of greater benefit to the community and the tertiary education system,” said David Carney, CICA’s Acting President.

Ms Field noted that recent research by the Productivity Commission and Skills Australia had pointed to the need for informed careers advice to support skills reform efforts by state and territory governments.

“One of the clear lessons in the Victorian roll out of the Victorian Training Guarantee is the need for more information to learners to help them make more informed choices of providers and courses. This initiative delivers on that need, and extended it into decision making about higher education study” she said.

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