Media Release
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ACPET commends ASQA for its tough regulatory stance

Following recent speculation by the ABC’s 7.30 program on an apparent crisis in the VET sector, ACPET CEO Claire Field today commended the national regulator, the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA), on their efforts to remove providers who do not meet the national quality standards.

"I note the decision taken by ASQA to terminate the registration of one of the providers highlighted on the 7.30 program and support ASQA’s efforts to deal with serious problems in the sector where they exist," Ms Field said. Ms Field also confirmed that the provider was not an ACPET member.

"No-one should be afraid of a debate about quality in our sector," Ms Field said. "But debates need to be based on facts."

Pointing to the data released by ASQA last week, Ms Field said "ASQA’s regulatory efforts show they audited some 40% of all providers last year. In addition, they dealt with almost 5,000 applications from providers and found a mere 5% to have serious issues of non-compliance with the quality standards for the sector."

"The data shows convincingly there is no crisis in our sector," Ms Field stated.

"ASQA’s actions to weed out the small numbers of providers who aren't interested in delivering the highest levels of educational quality to their students are to be applauded. I commend the Chief Commissioner and the rest of the ASQA team for their efforts.

"ACPET members stand ready to assist students affected by the termination decision. Interested students can find an ACPET member through our website (www.acpet.edu.au) and look at the courses they have to offer. From there, students can contact the college about the options available to them," Ms Field said.

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