

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Alberta College Research Income Advances by 11.4% in Fiscal 2013
Northern Alberta Institute of Technology Holds on to 2nd Place in National Ranking
Olds College Tops Mid-Sized Institutions in Number of Research Partnerships**

Toronto, ON (22 October 2014) - Northern Alberta Institute of Technology led 8 Alberta colleges by attracting \$9.7 million of research funding in Fiscal 2013 to retain 2nd place in the national ranking, according to Research Infosource Inc., which released its annual list of *Canada's Top 50 Research Colleges* today. SAIT Polytechnic was in 5th place nationally, with \$6.6 million of funding. In total, the 8 Alberta colleges on the Top 50 list attracted \$27.5 million of income to support research, an 11.4% gain on Fiscal 2012.

"Taking all 8 Alberta colleges into account we saw an increase of nearly 11.4% in total income for research, which was somewhat less than the 30.8% total national gain," said Ron Freedman, CEO of Research Infosource Inc. "These are still early years for college research, and for this reason, we expect to see a high level of annual variability in research funding."

Canada's 50 leading research colleges posted a record total of \$152.8 million of research income in Fiscal 2013, an increase of 30.8% over the previous year. This follows Fiscal 2012 growth of 30.7%.

This year, Research Infosource also included a spotlight on college research activity which has correspondingly expanded. In total, the Top 50 reported engaging in hundreds of research partnerships with external organizations and completed a similar number of projects during the year. Olds College was first in Canada among mid-sized colleges with 55 formal research partnerships last year, closely followed by Bow Valley College with 45 partnerships.

"Colleges and Cégeps have a unique place in the country's national system of innovation," said Mr. Freedman. "They differentiate themselves by concentrating on practical, applied research that is focussed on the needs of local firms and organizations."

For complete information: http://www.researchinfosource.com/top50_col.php

-30-

About Research Infosource Inc.

Research Infosource Inc. is Canada's source of R&D intelligence. Drawing from proprietary databases, Research Infosource Inc. publishes **Canada's Innovation Leaders**, which includes *Canada's Top 100 Corporate R&D Spenders List*, *Canada's Top 50 Research Universities List*, *Canada's Top 40 Research Hospitals List* and *Canada's Top 50 Research Colleges List*. As well, Research Infosource publishes specialized reports and *The Innovation Atlas of Canada*[™] – a web-based research and innovation mapping tool and data information product.

For additional information or for an interview, please contact:

Ron Freedman

CEO, Research Infosource

Telephone: 416-481-7070, ext. 31, Cell: 416-879-9000

Email: ron@researchinfosource.com