

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

<u>Contact Information:</u> Kelly Drennan, FTA Founding Executive Director <u>kelly@fashiontakesaction.com</u> | 416-458-1491 | @ecofashionista

Fashion Takes Action Hosts Canada's 1st Sustainable Fashion Conference: WEAR, World Ethical Apparel Roundtable

September 30, 2014, Toronto ON – Fashion Takes Action (FTA) presents the World Ethical Apparel Roundtable (*WEAR*) set to take place on November 3 and 4, 2014 at Evergreen Brick Works in Toronto. This is the first time a conference of this kind has been held in Canada, bringing together local and international thought leaders from across the apparel supply chain to collaborate and explore new benchmarks in social and environmental sustainability.

The two-day conference will focus on the many challenges AND solutions facing the fashion industry today as it relates to water, waste, toxic chemicals, labour and carbon. WEAR will consist of keynotes, industry panel discussions and networking sessions.

Speakers hail from organizations such as H&M, Gildan, Workers United, SHARE, Eileen Fisher, Me to We Style, Made in a Free World, Mountain Equipment Co-Op, Ethical Profiling, Responsible Sourcing Network and more. The three keynote speakers are Ian Spaulding of <u>Elevate Global Limited</u>, Tom Smith of <u>SEDEX</u> <u>Global</u> and Connie Ulasewicz of San Francisco State University.

This first time conference for Canada is geared toward anyone working in apparel – designers, buyers, retailers, suppliers, as well as communications professionals, NGOs and academics. It is *not* exclusive to those already engaged in ethical business practices, but rather FTA organizers hope to see greater attendance from Canadian companies who are curious or have just started to engage in CSR practices.

"Since the Rana Plaza collapse in Bangladesh, more Canadian apparel brands are showing an interest in corporate social responsibility, ethical sourcing and sustainable business models. *WEAR* is taking place at such a crucial time for the apparel industry and FTA is thrilled to be bringing all the key players together in a much needed industry wide setting."

For the full schedule and speaker bios please visit <u>http://www.wear2014.com</u>.

Fashion Takes Action is Canada's only non-profit fashion industry organization devoted to sustainability. Since inception in 2007 FTA has worked with over 300 members, several youth groups, and has reached thousands of consumers through various events and campaigns, spreading awareness for social and environmental responsibility. <u>http://www.fashiontakesaction.com/</u>