

4Q09

Local News Release

Embargoed Until 12:01AM, September 8 2009

Contact:

Martin Duval

Manpower Inc.

+1.450.776.6630

martin.duval@na.manpower.com

MODEST HIRING CLIMATE EXPECTED FOR MONTREAL

(Montreal, PQ, September 8, 2009) – Montreal area employers expect a modest hiring climate for the fourth quarter of 2009, according to the latest Manpower Employment Outlook Survey.

Survey data shows that 12 per cent of employers plan to hire for the upcoming quarter (October to December), while 11 per cent expect to reduce their workforce, stated Martin Duval Manpower's Regional Director for Eastern Canada. Another 76 per cent of employers intend to maintain their current staffing levels and one per cent are unsure of their hiring intentions for the upcoming quarter.

"Montreal's fourth quarter Net Employment Outlook of one per cent is a six percentage point decrease from the same time last year when the Net Employment Outlook was seven per cent," said Duval. "This is a further decrease from the previous quarter when area employers reported an Outlook of 15 per cent indicating a mild fourth quarter for 2009."

"This quarter's Net Employment Outlook indicates that the sluggish hiring pace reported in the previous quarter is likely to improve in the fourth quarter of 2009, but it's far off the pace we saw last year at this time," says Byrne Luft, VP, Marketing for Manpower Canada. "Employers are telling us that they plan to hire, but in a very conservative manner."

Of the 10 surveyed industry sectors, employers in both the Construction sector and the Finance, Insurance & Real Estate sector report the most favourable forecasts for the October to December period of 2009 with Net Employment Outlooks of 10 per cent once seasonal variations are removed from the data. Employers in both the Mining and Public Administration sectors are also cautiously

optimistic for the upcoming quarter, reporting seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlooks of nine per cent.