

1Q12

Local News Release

Embargoed Until 12:01AM EST, December 13th, 2011

Contact:

Randy Upright

Manpower

403.303.4530

Randy.Upright@manpower.com

HOPEFUL HIRING CLIMATE EXPECTED FOR CALGARY

(Calgary, AB December 13, 2011) – Calgary area employers expect a hopeful hiring climate for the first quarter of 2012, according to the latest Manpower Employment Outlook Survey.

Survey data reveals that 22 per cent of employers plan to hire for the upcoming quarter (January to March), while another three per cent anticipate cutbacks, stated Randy Upright, CEO of Manpower's Alberta Region. Another 72 per cent of employers plan to maintain their current staffing levels and three per cent are unsure of their hiring intentions for the upcoming quarter.

“Calgary's first quarter Net Employment Outlook of 19 per cent is a slight increase from the outlook of 18 per cent reported for the previous quarter,” said Upright. “It also reflects a one percentage point increase from the outlook reported during the same time last year which indicates an upbeat hiring climate for the upcoming months.”

“The upcoming quarter's Net Employment Outlook suggests some gains in employer optimism, particularly in the Manufacturing - Durables sector,” says Byrne Luft, Vice President of Operations, Staffing Services for Manpower Canada. “Although Western Canada anticipates the most favourable hiring climate, employers in all regions and sectors are telling us that they plan to hire at a more cautious pace from January to March compared with the previous quarter. Despite slight improvement overall, many employers are evidently taking time to evaluate current market conditions and demand for their products and services before committing to additional employees. It will be interesting to see how employer optimism develops through the rest of the year.”