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Contact:

John Settino

The iPR Group

1-416-901-5963

[john@theiprgroup.ca](mailto:john@theiprgroup.ca)

**Manpower Employment Outlook Survey Reveals Canadian Employers Expect a Modest Hiring Climate for the Second Quarter of 2009**

(Toronto, March 10, 2009) – Canadian employers expect only modest opportunities for job seekers for the April to June period of 2009, according to the latest results of the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey, the most extensive, forward-looking employment survey in the world.

The survey of more than 1,900 Canadian employers reveals that 15 per cent expect to increase their payrolls in the second quarter of 2009, while nine per cent anticipate cutbacks for a Net Employment Outlook of six per cent. Of those polled 73 per cent of employers plan to maintain their current workforce and three per cent are unsure of their hiring intentions for the upcoming quarter.

With seasonal variations removed from the survey data the Net Employment Outlook drops to a reserved one per cent, indicating a quiet hiring climate for the second quarter of 2009. This quarter's forecast is 17 percentage points weaker than in the previous quarter when the seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook was 18 per cent.

“This quarter's Net Employment Outlook indicates that the employer hiring confidence reported in the previous quarter has decreased,” says Lori Rogers, VP of Operations for Manpower Canada. “Canadian employers are telling us that while they will continue to increase their payrolls they will do so at a more cautious pace than in the previous quarters.”

“In Atlantic and Western Canada the hiring forecasts are ahead of the national forecast,” adds Rogers. Employers in Atlantic Canada report a hopeful hiring climate with a Net Employment Outlook of 19 per cent, while employers in Western Canada expect a fair hiring climate with a Net

Employment Outlook of eight per cent. Employers in Quebec anticipate a mild hiring climate reporting a Net Employment Outlook of three per cent and with a Net Employment of one per cent Ontario employers predict a quiet hiring climate for the upcoming quarter.

Of the 10 surveyed industry sectors, employers in the Services sector report the most hopeful results for the April to June period of 2009 with a projected Net Employment Outlook of 11 per cent once seasonal variations are removed from the data. Employers in the Public Administration and Construction sectors expect a moderate quarter both with Net Employment Outlooks of 10 per cent.

### **Services**

Employers in the Services sector project a positive hiring climate for the second quarter of 2009 reporting a seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook of 11 per cent. This is a seven percentage point decline from the outlook reported at the same time last year and a further decline from the previous quarter when the seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook was 20 per cent.

### **Public Administration**

Reporting a seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook of 10 per cent, employers in the Public Administration sector anticipate a respectable job outlook for the upcoming quarter. However, this quarter's outlook is a seven percentage point decline from the previous quarter and a further decrease from the second quarter of 2008 when employers reported a seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook of 19 per cent.

### **Construction**

With a seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook of 10 per cent, employers in the Construction industry project a conservative second quarter for 2009. This quarter's hiring forecast is an eight percentage decline from the same time last year and a further 21 percentage point drop from the previous quarter.

### **Mining**

In the Mining sector, employers report a seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook of eight per cent. This is an 11 percentage point decrease from the same time last year and a five percentage point drop from the first quarter of 2008 when employers reported a seasonally adjusted Net Employment

Outlook of 13 per cent. Despite this decline, employers project a moderate hiring pace for the upcoming quarter.

### **Education**

Employers in the Education sector project a mild hiring climate with a Net Employment Outlook of seven per cent once seasonal variations are removed from the data. This is a slight decrease when compared to the eight per cent outlook reported at the same time last year, and a further decline from the previous quarter when Education sector employers reported a seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook of 14 per cent.

### **Transportation and Public Utilities**

In the Transporting and Public Utilities sector job seekers can expect a subdued hiring climate for the second quarter of 2009 with a seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook of four per cent. This is a decrease from the same time last year when the Net Employment Outlook was eight per cent, and a further 13 percentage point decline from the previous quarter when the seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook was 17 per cent.

### **Wholesale and Retail Trade**

Reporting a seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook of three per cent employers in the Wholesale and Retail Trade sector anticipate an unstable hiring climate for the upcoming quarter. This is a 14 percentage point decrease from the same time last year and a further 31 percentage point decline from the previous quarter.

### **Finance, Insurance and Real Estate**

Employers in the Finance, Insurance and Real Estate sector report a dull second quarter with a seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook of one per cent. This is a decline from the same time last year when the Net Employment Outlook was 10 per cent. It is also a seven percentage point decrease from the previous quarter when then Net Employment Outlook was eight per cent.

### **Manufacturing Non-Durables Goods**

With a seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook of minus five per cent, employers in the Manufacturing Non-Durable Goods sector anticipate a slow hiring climate for the upcoming quarter. This

is a five percentage point decrease from the flat hiring pace reported at the same time last year and a further decrease from the previous quarter when the seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook was 13 per cent.

### **Manufacturing Durable Goods**

In the Manufacturing Durable Goods sector employers report a seasonally adjusted Net Employment Outlook of minus nine per cent. This is a decrease from the same time last year when employers reported a Net Employment Outlook of eight per cent and a further 18 percentage point decline from the moderate outlook reported in the previous quarter.

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#### **Note to Editors**

Full survey results for each of the 33 countries and territories included in this quarter's survey, plus regional and global comparisons, can be found in the Manpower Press Room at [www.manpower.com/meos](http://www.manpower.com/meos). In addition, all tables and graphs from the full report are available to be downloaded for use in publication or broadcast from the Manpower Web site at <http://www.manpower.com/library>.

Note that in Quarter 2 of 2008, the survey adopted the TRAMO-SEATS model for seasonal adjustment of data. As a result, you may notice some seasonally adjusted data points change slightly from previous reports. This model is recommended by the Eurostat department of the European Union and the European Central Bank and is widely used internationally.

#### **About the Survey**

The Manpower Employment Outlook Survey is conducted quarterly to measure employers' intentions to increase or decrease the number of employees in their workforce during the next quarter. It is the most extensive forward-looking survey of its kind, unparalleled in its size, scope, longevity and area of focus. The Survey has been running for more than 45 years and is one of the most trusted surveys of employment activity in the world. The Manpower Employment Outlook Survey is based on interviews with more than 71,000 public and private employers worldwide and is considered a highly respected economic indicator.

The Manpower Employment Outlook Survey is currently available for 33 countries and territories: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hong Kong, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Romania, Singapore, Spain, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, the United Kingdom and the United States. The program began in the United States and Canada in 1962, and the United Kingdom was added in 1966. Mexico and Ireland launched the survey in 2002, and 13 additional countries were added to the program in 2003. New Zealand joined the program in 2004, China, India, Switzerland and Taiwan were added in 2005, and Argentina, Peru, Costa Rica and South Africa joined in 2006. Colombia, the Czech Republic, Greece, Guatemala, Poland and Romania joined in 2008. For more information, visit the Manpower Inc. Web site at [www.manpower.com](http://www.manpower.com) and enter the Research Center.

#### **About Manpower Canada**

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