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Local News Release

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LIMITED HIRING CLIMATE EXPECTED FOR THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS

(Eastern Townships, QC, September 9, 2014) – Eastern Townships employers anticipate a limited hiring climate for the fourth quarter of 2014, according to the latest Manpower Employment Outlook Survey.

“Survey data reveals that 10 per cent of employers plan to hire for the upcoming quarter (October to December), while 16 per cent anticipate cutbacks,” stated Stepan Arman of Manpower’s Montreal office. Another 71 per cent of employers plan to maintain their current staffing levels in the upcoming quarter, while three percent of employers are unsure about their hiring intentions.

“With seasonal variations removed from the data, the Eastern Townships’ fourth quarter Net Employment Outlook of -3 per cent is a decrease of 11 percentage points when compared to the previous quarterly Outlook,” said Arman. “It is also a five percentage point decrease from the Outlook reported during the same time last year, indicating a flat hiring pace for the upcoming months.”

“We continue to see some positive signs from employers across the country. However, the hiring climate is expected to be more modest in the fourth quarter, with the weakest Net Employment Outlook we’ve seen since the second quarter of 2010,” said Byrne Luft, Vice President of Operations for Manpower Canada. “Although the political environments in Quebec and Ontario have stabilized after their provincial elections, it has not yet translated to an uptick in the general mood, particularly among SMBs. We do expect to see growth in the public administration, transportation & public utilities, and financial, insurance & real estate sectors however, and energy exports continue to grow

at a strong rate. This growth is expected to be strongest in Western Canada; Alberta is, once again, a strong driver of the Canadian economy.”