

Media Release

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MAKING HEADWAY WITH THE WAR FOR TALENT - SIX MANITOBA COMPANIES RECEIVE AWARDS FOR INNOVATIVE PEOPLE PRACTICES

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA – Six inaugural winners will be awarded their hardware at 4:45 p.m. on January 11, 2007 at Canad Inns Polo Park. The People Forward Awards were created to recognize progressive organizations operating in Manitoba that have achieved business objectives through the development and application of innovative people practices.

Karen Palmer, a consultant at Winnipeg-based People First, says, “The threat of losing good Manitoba talent to other provinces has never been greater. Human resources issues are at the top of the corporate agenda today because of the increasing challenge in attracting people and retaining them. The winners of the People Forward Awards emphasize Manitoba companies are taking this challenge seriously.”

The winners and their categories are: Investors Group, Quality of Work Life; Ernst & Young LLP, Training and Development; Cambrian Credit Union, Recruitment; Peak of the Market, Retention, Rewards and Recognition; Convergys CMG Canada Ltd., Employee Communication; Career Trek Inc., Developing Tomorrow’s Workforce. Honourable mention goes to Smith Carter Architects and Engineers Inc., South Interlake Credit Union and F.H. Black & Company.

“These awards are a significant opportunity for Manitoba companies to really showcase some of the innovative people practices in the province,” says John McFerran, Chief Operating Officer of People First. “Manitoba is a great place to work and do business.”

The event includes two seminars reviewing some of the best practices brought forth during the awards process, as well as people forward practices from around the globe. A cocktail reception and awards presentation follows the forum.

People First HR Services provides a wide range of HR consulting services to both private and public sector clients, including executive and management recruiting, outplacement services, office staffing, employee services and human resource management solutions. The firm is the largest of its kind in Manitoba and has placed in the top four of Manitoba’s fast-growing companies (as recognized by Manitoba Business magazine) three years running.

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