Pension Plan for Non-Unionized Employees of Quebecor Media Inc. and its Participating Subsidiaries

Actuarial Valuation as at December 31, 2009

Report prepared on September 20, 2010

Registration number: Ontario and Canada Revenue Agency #1098474



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# Introduction

This report presents the results of the actuarial valuation as at December 31, 2009 of the Pension Plan for Non-Unionized Employees of Quebecor Media Inc. and its Participating Subsidiaries (the "Plan"). Quebecor Media Inc. (the "Employer") retained the services of Morneau Sobeco to perform this actuarial valuation. The last complete valuation that was filed with the Financial Services Commission of Ontario and the Canada Revenue Agency was performed as at December 31, 2008.

This report was prepared for Quebecor Media Inc. for the following purposes:

- > to determine the financial position of the Plan on a going-concern basis;
- > to determine the financial position of the Plan on both a solvency and a wind-up basis;
- > to estimate the employer contributions required under the Plan during the period from this valuation date up to the next valuation in accordance with the Ontario *Pension Benefits Act*; and
- > to provide the information and the actuarial opinion required by the Ontario *Pension Benefits Act* and the *Income Tax Act*.

The solvency and wind-up basis have been updated to reflect market conditions as at the valuation date. In addition, please note that changes were made to the actuarial assumptions on a going-concern basis.



# Section 1 – Actuarial Opinion

This opinion is given with respect to the Pension Plan for Non-Unionized Employees of Quebecor Media Inc. and its Participating Subsidiaries, registration number 1098474 (Ontario). We performed a valuation of the Plan as at December 31, 2009, based on the Plan provisions and data as at that date. The Employer has confirmed that, between December 31, 2009 and September 20, 2010, no subsequent events, no modifications or extraordinary changes to the membership or the Plan, that would materially affect the results of this actuarial valuation, have occurred, except as indicated in this report.

We hereby certify that, in our opinion, as at December 31, 2009:

- > The Plan is not fully funded on a going-concern basis. The actuarial liabilities exceed the actuarial value of assets by \$4,764,200.
- > According to the solvency test required under the Ontario *Pension Benefits Act*, the Plan is not solvent. On a solvency basis, the actuarial liabilities exceed the value of assets by \$14,781,500.
- > The Plan assets would have been less than the actuarial liabilities by \$15,793,100 if the Plan had been wound up on the valuation date.
- > The transfer ratio of the Plan, as defined under the Ontario *Pension Benefits Act*, is equal to 0.872. The Employer may have to make additional contributions if an ex-participant transfers the commuted value of his accrued benefits out of the Plan.
- > The residual normal cost (i.e. normal cost less employee required contributions) is equal to 8.6% of payroll.
- > The minimum employer contribution is equal to 8.6% of payroll plus amortization payments. These amounts (in dollars) can be estimated as shown in the table below:

Table 1.1 – Estimated Residual Normal Cost and Minimum Annual Amortization Payments

Plan year	Residual normal cost	Amortization payments
	\$	\$
2010	5,979,600	2,732,780
2011	6,188,900	2,501,340
2012	6,405,500	1,510,940

> The minimum amortization payments should be the dollar amounts indicated in the above table. Higher amortization payments are acceptable but they cannot exceed \$15,793,100 plus interest in aggregate. The Plan actuary should be consulted if the amortization payments in any year are greater than the minimum required.



These contributions are required in order for the Fund to have sufficient assets to pay benefits under the Plan. These contributions conform to the eligibility requirements of the *Income Tax Act* if contributed within the fiscal year or remitted within 120 days after the end of the fiscal year. They would also conform to the Ontario *Pension Benefits Act*. This Act requires that the current service employer contributions and the employee contributions be remitted to the fund monthly, within 30 days of the month to which they pertain. It also requires that amortization payments be made at least monthly.

# In our opinion:

- > The data on which the valuation is based are sufficient and reliable for the purposes of the valuation.
- > The assumptions used are, in aggregate, appropriate for the purposes of the valuation.
- > The methods employed in the valuation are appropriate for the purposes of the valuation.

This report has been prepared, and our opinion given, in accordance with accepted actuarial practice.

The assumptions that form the going-concern basis used in the report were reasonable at the time this actuarial valuation report was prepared and contributions were determined.

This actuarial valuation was performed in accordance with the funding and solvency standards prescribed under the Ontario *Pension Benefits Act*.

The calculations in the actuarial valuation report have been prepared in accordance with section 147.2(2) of the *Income Tax Act*.

The recommendations and opinions are given exclusively from a financial viewpoint. This valuation report does not constitute a legal opinion on the rights and duties of the Plan administrator, the Employer or the members over the pension fund.

Actuarial valuation results are only estimates. Actuarial valuations are performed based on assumptions and methods that are in accordance with sound actuarial principles. Emerging experience differing from these assumptions may result in gains or losses, which may affect future contribution levels. These will be revealed in future actuarial valuations.



The next actuarial valuation will have to be performed not later than as at December 31, 2010.

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September 20, 2010



# Section 2 – Going-Concern Financial Position

# **Statement of Going-Concern Financial Position**

The financial position of the Plan on a going-concern basis is determined by comparing the actuarial value of the assets to the actuarial liabilities. The actuarial liabilities are based on the benefits earned up to the valuation date assuming the Plan continues indefinitely.

**Table 2.1 – Going-Concern Financial Position** 

	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
	\$	\$
Actuarial value of assets		
> Market value	108,284,000	89,061,100
> Adjustment	(535,100)	13,032,400
> Contributions receivable	_	1,287,300
> Total	107,748,900	103,380,800
Actuarial liabilities		
> Active members	60,239,200	55,704,200
> Retired members and beneficiaries	37,218,500	33,722,400
> Terminated vested members	11,267,800	9,716,300
> Suspended members	3,787,600	4,942,500
> Total	112,513,100	104,085,400
Actuarial surplus (unfunded liability)	(4,764,200)	(704,600)
Funding Ratio	95.8%	99.3%



# **Reconciliation of Going-Concern Financial Position**

The table below describes the change in the Plan's going-concern financial position since the last valuation:

Table 2.2 – Reconciliation of Going-Concern Financial Position

	\$	\$
Actuarial surplus (unfunded liability) as at December 31, 2008		(704,600)
Expected changes in financial position		
> Interest on surplus (unfunded liability)	(42,300)	
> Amortization payments	1,361,800	
> Interest on amortization payments	40,900	
> Total		1,360,400
Expected surplus (unfunded liability) as at December 31, 2009		655,800
Actuarial gains (losses) due to the following factors		
> Investment return on actuarial value of assets	(4,910,800)	
> Salary increases	1,075,000	
> Retirements	(214,500)	
> Terminations	457,900	
> Mortality	68,900	
> Other factors	(134,200)	
> Total		(3,657,700)
Changes in actuarial assumptions		
> Retirement age for certain deferred members	(854,600)	
> Full generational UP-94 mortality table projected with scale AA	(907,700)	
> Total		(1,762,300)
Actuarial surplus (unfunded liability) as at December 31, 2009		(4,764,200)



# Section 3 – Solvency and Wind-up Financial Position

# **Statement of Solvency Financial Position**

A solvency valuation is a hypothetical valuation prescribed by the Ontario *Pension Benefits Act* and which imposes a floor on required contributions and a ceiling on what may be transferred out of the pension fund upon termination of membership. A solvency valuation may, however, differ from the valuation required on plan wind-up. See Statement of Wind-up Financial Position below.

Table 3.1 - Solvency Financial Position

	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
	\$	\$
Solvency assets		
> Market value of assets	108,284,000	89,061,100
> Contributions receivable	_	1,287,300
> Provision for expenses	(450,000)	(330,000)
> Total	107,834,000	90,018,400
Solvency liabilities		
> Active members	62,175,600	54,063,900
> Terminated vested members	13,996,500	11,762,600
> Retired members and beneficiaries	41,677,500	36,488,500
> Suspended members	4,765,900	6,000,100
> Total	122,615,500	108,315,100
Assets less liabilities on a solvency basis	(14,781,500)	(18,296,700)
Solvency asset adjustment		
> Present value of special payments	4,264,200	6,382,500
> Asset averaging method	1,464,200	12,590,500
> Total	5,728,400	18,973,000
Solvency liability adjustment	4,454,500	2,187,000
New solvency surplus (deficiency)	(4,598,600)	2,863,300

As authorized by the Ontario *Pension Benefits Act*, the value of future post-retirement cost-of-living increases can be excluded for solvency liabilities purposes. The value on a solvency basis of this excluded benefit is \$1,011,600 as at December 31, 2009.



#### **Solvency Asset and Liability Adjustments**

As defined under the Ontario *Pension Benefits Act*, the solvency asset adjustment represents the sum of:

- a) the present value of amortization payments established at the preceding valuation, adjusted to take into account the current going-concern valuation, and due to be paid during the prescribed period following the valuation date.
- b) an amount by which the value of the solvency assets are adjusted as a result of applying an averaging method that stabilises short-term fluctuations in the market value of the Plan assets, calculated over a period of not more than five years, as shown in Appendix C.

The solvency asset adjustment as at December 31, 2009, as defined in a) above, is determined as follows:

Table 3.2 - Solvency Asset Adjustment

Nature of liability or deficiency	Start date	End date	Annual amortization payment	Solvency asset adjustment <sup>1</sup>
	mm-dd-yyyy	mm-dd-yyyy	\$	\$
Solvency	04-14-2008	10-31-2011	1,221,840	2,119,400
Going-concern	12-31-2008	12-31-2023	70,630	315,200
Going-concern	12-31-2009	12-31-2024	409,940	1,829,600
Total			1,702,410	4,264,200

<sup>1</sup> Value of amortization payments (maximum 5 years) discounted with solvency interest rate as at December 31, 2009

The solvency liability adjustment is the amount by which the value of the solvency liabilities are adjusted as a result of using a solvency valuation interest rate that is the average of market interest rates calculated over a period of not more than five years, as shown in Appendix B.

#### Statement of Wind-up Financial Position

As permitted by applicable legislation, escalated adjustments were not valued on a solvency basis.

Since the solvency assets have been adjusted, the solvency liabilities have been adjusted and not all benefits have been valued, if the Plan had been liquidated as at December 31, 2009 and assuming that the asset liquidation value had been equal to the market value, the wind-up financial position would have been different from the solvency position as shown in the table below:



Table 3.3 - Wind-up Financial Position

	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
	\$	\$
Wind-up assets		
> Market value of assets	108,284,000	89,061,100
> Contributions receivable	_	1,287,300
> Provision for expenses	(450,000)	(330,000)
> Total	107,834,000	90,018,400
Wind-up liabilities		
> Active members	62,922,700	56,928,500
> Terminated vested members	14,094,300	12,326,000
> Retired members and benefic	iaries 41,836,700	36,488,500
> Suspended members	4,773,400	6,245,200
> Total	123,627,100	111,988,200
Assets less liabilities on a wind-up	basis (15,793,100)	(21,969,800)
Transfer ratio	0.872	0.804

### **Transfer Ratio**

The transfer ratio is equal to the ratio of the wind-up assets to the wind-up liabilities, as shown in table 3.3.

# Pension Benefits Guarantee Fund (PBGF) Assessment

The PBGF Assessment is the annual premium toward the Pension Benefits Guarantee Fund. As the following table shows, the assessment depends on the size of the deficit for Ontario Plan beneficiaries (active and inactive members).

Table 3.4 - PBGF Assessment Base

	\$
Ontario portion of solvency assets (before provision for expenses)	43,675,500
PBGF liabilities	49,864,000
PBGF assessment base	6,188,500
Additional liability for plant closure and/or permanent layoff benefits not funded	_



# Section 4 – Normal Cost and Amortization Payments

#### **Normal Cost**

The table below summarizes the estimated going-concern cost of pension benefits being earned in the twelve-month period after the valuation date (the normal cost).

Table 4.1 - Normal Cost

	As at December 31, 2009		As at December 31, 20	
	\$ % of payroll <sup>1</sup>		\$	% of payroll <sup>1</sup>
Normal cost	7,907,800	(11.4)	8,112,900	(11.0)
Less employee contributions	1,928,200	(2.8)	2,009,400	(2.7)
Residual normal cost	5,979,600	(8.6)	6,103,500	(8.3)

<sup>1</sup> In % of unlimited payroll.

The table below summarizes the residual normal cost per option as at this valuation. For comparison, the information as at the last valuations is also included in the table.

Table 4.2 - Residual Normal Cost per Option

		As at December 31, 2009		As at Dece	ember 31, 2008
		\$	% of payroll <sup>1</sup>	\$	% of payroll <sup>1</sup>
>	Non-contributive option	479,300	(7.3)	475,500	(7.0)
>	Contributive option	4,116,600	(10.4)	4,142,600	(10.1)
>	Designated option	1,043,000	(15.6)	1,110,600	(15.9)
>	Sun Media option	340,700	(6.0)	374,800	(5.9)

<sup>1</sup> In % of limited payroll.



#### **Reconciliation of Normal Cost**

The factors contributing to the change in the normal cost are shown below:

Table 4.3 - Reconciliation of Normal Cost

	% of payroll
Normal cost as at December 31, 2008	11.0
Demographic changes	0.2
Changes in actuarial assumptions	0.2
Normal cost as at December 31, 2009	11.4

# **Amortization Payments**

The amortization schedule as determined in the previous actuarial report is as follows:

Table 4.4 - Amortization Payments - Previous Valuations

Nature of liability or deficiency	Start date	End date	Annual amortization payment	Balance going concern <sup>1</sup>	Balance solvency <sup>2</sup>
	mm-dd-yyyy	mm-dd-yyyy	\$	\$	\$
Solvency <sup>3</sup>	04-14-2008	10-31-2011	1,221,840	2,027,900	2,119,400
Going-concern <sup>4</sup>	12-31-2008	12-31-2023	70,630	674,400	315,200
Total			1,292,470	2,702,300	2,434,600

<sup>1</sup> Value of amortization payments discounted with interest as at December 31, 2009 (at a rate of going-concern basis at that date)

Based on the financial position of the Plan shown in Sections 2 and 3, the previous amortization schedule must therefore be adjusted in the manner and order set out by the Ontario *Pension Benefits Act*.



<sup>2</sup> Value of amortization payments discounted with interest as at December 31, 2009 (at a rate of solvency basis at that date)

<sup>3</sup> The last payment in October 2011 will be \$74,020.

<sup>4</sup> Only five years of amortization payments considered.

The employer minimum required contributions to finance deficiencies as of this valuation date are thus as follows:

Table 4.5 - Amortization Payments - Current Valuation

Nature of liability or deficiency	Start date	End date	Annual amortization payment	Balance going concern	Balance solvency <sup>2</sup>
	mm-dd-yyyy	mm-dd-yyyy	\$	\$	\$
Solvency <sup>3</sup>	04-14-2008	10-31-2011	1,221,840	2,027,900	2,119,400
Going-concern <sup>4</sup>	12-31-2008	12-31-2023	70,630	674,400	315,200
Going-concern <sup>4</sup>	12-31-2009	12-31-2024	409,940	4,089,800	1,829,600
Solvency	12-31-2009	12-31-2014	1,030,370	4,458,400	4,598,600
Total			2,732,780	11,250,000	8,862,800

<sup>1</sup> Value of amortization payments discounted with interest as at December 31, 2009 (at a rate of 6%)

These amortization payments are in addition to amounts required to cover the residual normal cost. Higher amortization payments are acceptable but they cannot exceed the greater of the excess of the actuarial liabilities over the assets on the going-concern basis and the excess of the actuarial liabilities over the assets on a wind-up basis, plus interest in aggregate.



<sup>2</sup> Value of amortization payments discounted with interest as at December 31, 2009 (at a rate of 4,66%)

<sup>3</sup> The last payment in October 2011 will be \$74,020.

<sup>4</sup> Only five years of amortization payments considered.

# Appendix A – Going-Concern Actuarial Basis

#### **Asset Valuation Method**

The actuarial value of the assets used to determine the going-concern financial position is based on a valuation method that smoothes out short-term market fluctuations over a 3-year period. This method consists in subtracting from the market value of assets, adjusted for amounts payable and receivable as at the valuation date, an amount equal to:

- a)  $66^{2}/_{3}\%$  of the difference between the actual market value and the expected market value as at December 31, 2009, plus
- b)  $33^{1}/_{3}\%$  of the difference between the actual market value and the expected market value as at December 31, 2008.

Expected investment earnings are calculated by assuming that the fund's assets at the beginning of the Plan year and cash flows during the Plan year will generate a return that is equivalent to the going-concern valuation interest rate. This method is the same as the one used in the last valuation.

#### **Actuarial Cost Method**

The actuarial liabilities and the normal cost on a going-concern basis were calculated using the projected accrued benefit (or projected unit credit) actuarial cost method.

The actuarial liabilities are equal to the actuarial present value of benefits earned by members for services prior to the valuation date, taking into account the assumptions as indicated hereafter.

The normal cost is equal to the actuarial present value of benefits expected to be earned by members in the year following the valuation date. The residual normal cost is the excess of the normal cost over employees' required contributions.

This valuation method for determining the actuarial liabilities and the normal cost is the same as the one used in the last valuation.

The ratio of the total normal cost to the covered payroll for the period will tend to stabilize over time if the demographic characteristics of the active and disabled members remain stable. All other things being equal, an increase in the average age of the active and disabled members will result in an increase in this ratio. Such an increase is expected since the Plan has been closed to new employees effective December 27, 2008.

For valuation purposes, to determine eligibility for benefits and for any other use, the age used is the age on the date of the nearest birthday. This method is the same as the one used in the last valuation.



#### **Actuarial Assumptions**

The main actuarial assumptions used in the going-concern valuation are summarized in the following table. Some assumptions used in this valuation are different from those used in the previous valuation. For comparison purposes, the assumptions used in the last valuation are also included in the table. All rates and percentages are annualized unless otherwise noted.

Table A.1 – Actuarial Assumptions

	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008	
Interest	6.00%	6.00%	
Salary increase	3.50%	3.50%	
> Sun Media option	None	None	
Increase in maximum pensionable earnings	3.00%	3.00%	
Inflation	2.50%	2.50%	
Indexation	0% for the first 5 years and 0.32% thereafter	0% for the first 5 years and 0.32% thereafter	
> Sun Media option	None	None	
Maximum pension	2009: \$2,444.44 2008: \$ 2010: \$2,494.44 2009: \$ 3.00% starting in 2011 3.00% starting		
Interest credited on employee contributions	6.00%	6.00%	
Mortality	Full generational UP-94 table projected with scale AA	UP-94 Table projected to 2020 with scale AA	
Termination of membership	Age %	Age %	
	22 18 32 13 42 8 52 -	22 18 32 13 42 8 52 -	
Retirement	50% at age 61	50% at age 61	
	50% at age 62	50% at age 62	
> Deferred members	Age 65, if not eligible to subsidized Age 6 early retirement reduction		
% with eligible survivors	Male: 80% Male: 80% Female: 65% Female: 60%		
Difference in age between spouses	Male is 3 years older than female Male is 3 years older than female		

### Calculation of the value of amortization payments

The interest rate used to discount the value of amortization payments for the purposes of calculating the going-concern balance corresponds to the interest rate chosen for the valuation of the actuarial liabilities on a going-concern basis.



# Choice of assumptions

The assumptions have been reviewed in light of current economic conditions to achieve a better match between the valuation of the actuarial liabilities and the valuation of the assets.

Based on the target portfolio set out in the investment policy, the expected long-term real returns of the different asset classes and the expected added value of the investment manager, we may anticipate a real return of 4.6%, which, when added to the expected inflation rate of 2.5%, results in a rate of 7.1%. However, it is appropriate to reduce this expectation by a margin for adverse deviations of 0.4% and a provision for investment and administrative expenses of 0.7%. Therefore, we believe that a nominal net rate of 6.0% is appropriate.

Table A.2 - Rate of Return

	%
Anticipated inflation	2.5
Anticipated real rate of return	4.6
Margin for adverse experience	(0.4)
Margin for administrative fees	(0.7)
Interest rate	6.0

Considering the historically high correlation between inflation, salary increases and return on investment, the YPME and salary increases have been determined accordingly. Thus the general salary increases has been determined at 0.5% over the inflation rate. Increases due to promotions remain constant at 0.50%, since the last valuation.

In order to reflect improvement in life expectancy as well as future expectations, this current valuation uses the full generational UP-94 table projected with scale AA while UP-94 mortality table projected to 2020 with AA-scale was used for prior valuations.

The retirement age assumption has been modified for deferred members eligible to a subsidized early retirement reduction. In this current valuation, these members are presumed to retire at the same age than other members, instead of retiring at age 65 as in the prior valuation.

Disabled members are valued as active members; however no disability rates are applied. There are no recovery rates for them and their salaries are excluded from payroll.

Members aged over the retirement age assumption are assumed to retire immediately. Therefore, for the calculation of the actuarial cost, we exclude the present value of benefits which would be earned by these members in the year following the valuation.

Suspended members are valuated like active members for going-concern purposes because although they do not accrue future benefits, they are still Employees.



# Appendix B – Solvency and Wind-Up Actuarial Basis

#### **Asset Valuation Method - Solvency**

The actuarial value of the assets used to determine the solvency financial position is equal to the market value of assets, adjusted for amounts payable and receivable. As permitted by law, an adjustment has been made to the solvency assets by applying an averaging method that stabilizes short-term fluctuations in the market value of the plan assets over a 5-year period. This smoothed method used consists in subtracting from the assets, adjusted for amounts payable and receivable as at the valuation date, an amount equal to:

- a) 80% of the difference between the actual market value and the expected market value as at December 31, 2009, plus
- b) 60% of the difference between the actual market value and the expected market value as at December 31, 2008, plus
- c) 40% of the difference between the actual market value and the expected market value as at December 31, 2007, plus
- d) 20% of the difference between the actual market value and the expected market value as at December 31, 2006.

Expected investment earnings are calculated by assuming that the fund's assets at the beginning of the Plan year and cash flows during the Plan year will generate a return that is equivalent to the rates described in this section.

The actuarial value of the solvency assets must also be reduced to take into account the provision for expenses.

This valuation method is the same as the one used in the last valuation.

### Asset Valuation Method - Wind-Up

The actuarial value of the assets used to determine the wind-up financial position is equal to the market value of assets, adjusted for amounts payable and receivable, minus a provision for expenses.

#### **Actuarial Cost Method**

The solvency liabilities are determined using the accrued benefit (or unit credit) actuarial cost method. The solvency liabilities are equal to the actuarial present value of all benefits earned by members for services prior to the valuation date assuming the Plan is wound up on the valuation date. This method is the same as the one used in the last valuation.

For valuation purposes, the age used is the age on the date of the nearest birthday. However, to determine eligibility for benefits, the exact age was used. These methods are the same as those used in the last valuation.



# **Actuarial Assumptions**

The main actuarial assumptions used in the solvency and wind-up valuations correspond to those prescribed by the applicable legislation. They are summarized in the following tables. For comparison purposes, the assumptions used in the last valuation are also included. All rates and percentages are annualized unless otherwise noted.

**Table B.1 – Solvency Actuarial Assumptions** 

	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
Interest rate for active and deferred vested members less than age 55 <sup>1</sup>	3.9% for the next 10 years and 5.4% thereafter	4.2% for the next 10 years and 5.7% thereafter
Interest rate for retired members, active and deferred vested members age 55 and over	4.49%	4.85%
Indexation before retirement for Quebec members	0.87% for the next 10 years and 1.29% thereafter	0.68% for the next 10 years and 0.96% thereafter
Indexation of pension <sup>2</sup>	0%	0%
> Sun Media option	N/A	N/A
Salary increase (productivity)	None	None
Increase in maximum pensionable earnings	None	None
Increase in maximum pension	None	None
Mortality		
> Transfer values <sup>3</sup>	Unisex rates based on: 70% UP-94 Male Table projected to 2020 with scale AA, and	Unisex rates based on: 70% UP-94 Male Table projected to 2020 with scale AA, and
	30% UP-94 Female Table projected to 2020 with scale AA.	30% UP-94 Female Table projected to 2020 with scale AA.
> Annuity purchase	UP-94 Table projected to 2020 with scale AA sex distinct	UP-94 Table projected to 2015 with scale AA sex distinct
Termination of membership	None	None
Retirement	Age that maximizes the value of the pension	Age that maximizes the value of the pension
% with eligible survivors	Male: 80%	Male: 80%
	Female: 65%	Female: 60%
Difference in age between spouses	Male is 3 years older than female	Male is 3 years older than female
Provision for expenses	\$450,000	\$330,000

<sup>1</sup> Including Quebec active and deferred vested members over age 55.



<sup>2</sup> Indexation of pension has been excluded as permitted by the Ontario Pension Benefits Act.

<sup>3</sup> Sex distinct mortality tables have been used for Quebec members.

The main actuarial assumptions used for the valuation on a wind-up basis correspond to those used in the solvency valuation except as indicated in the table below.

**Table B.2 – Wind-Up Actuarial Assumptions** 

		December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
Interest rate for active and deferred vested members less than age 55 <sup>1</sup>		3.9% for the next 10 years and 5.4% thereafter	3.75% for the next 10 years and 5.25% thereafter
Interest rate for retired members, active and deferred vested members age 55 and over		4.49%	4.85%
Po	st-retirement indexation		
>	For active and deferred vested members	0.25%	0.00%
> For retired members, active and deferred vested members outside of Quebec age 55 and over		0.00%	0.00%
Мс	ortality		
>	Transfer values <sup>2</sup>	Unisex rates based on: 70% UP-94 Male Table projected to 2020 with scale AA, and 30% UP-94 Female Table projected to 2020 with scale AA.	Unisex rates based on: 70% UP-94 Male Table projected to 2015 with scale AA, and 30% UP-94 Female Table projected to 2015 with scale AA.
>	Annuity purchase	UP-94 Table projected to 2020 with scale AA sex distinct	UP-94 Table projected to 2015 with scale AA sex distinct

<sup>1</sup> Including Quebec active and deferred vested members over age 55.

### Vesting of benefits

In conformity with the Quebec *Supplemental Pension Plans Act*, for every member subject to this legislation and still active as at the valuation date, we took into account benefits ancillary to any pension to which this member would have been entitled if he had retired on the day preceding the valuation date.

In conformity with the Ontario *Pension Benefits Act*, each member's pension benefits subject to this legislation as at the valuation date shall be determined as if the member had satisfied all eligibility conditions for a deferred pension. Moreover, all grow-in rights attributable to these members have been included in the accrued benefits, specifically:

- > Members with 55 points (age plus service) were assumed to grow into a subsidized early retirement benefit
- > Members with 55 points (age plus service) and 10 years of service were assumed to receive bridge benefits.



<sup>2</sup> Sex-distinct mortality tables have been used for Quebec members.

> For the purposes of determining eligibility for unreduced pension and supplemental bridge pension, we assumed that the Plan remained in effect to the member's retirement date and that the member remained employed to that date.

# Payment of benefits

In conformity with the Quebec *Supplemental Pension Plans Act*, every member subject to this Act for which pension is not in payment must be settled by a lump sum transfer. All other members and beneficiaries subject to this Act must have their pension insured with an insurance company.

Moreover, we have assumed that 100% of all active members not subject to the Quebec legislation and that are less than 55 years old would opt for the transfer of the value of their rights. We have also assumed that the benefits of all other members not subject to the Quebec legislation would be insured with an insurance company. This approach is the same as the one used in the last valuation.

#### Average salaries

The average salaries have been calculated as at the valuation date, using actual past salaries.

#### Investment in the company equities

As the value of assets includes securities of the company, its value could be affected if the Employer declared bankruptcy.

#### Difference in age between spouses and % with eligible survivors

The assumptions of the age difference between spouses and eligible survivor percentages are used for members who are not retirees. For retirees, the assumption of the age difference between spouses was used, and information about the marital status of each individual was based on the data provided by the Plan Administrator.

#### Termination scenario

The termination scenario used in the solvency and wind-up valuations includes the following assumptions:

- > Plan wind-up would not result from employer insolvency.
- > All assets could be realized at their reported market value.

This approach is the same as the one used in the last valuation.

## Discounted value of payments

The interest rate used to discount the amortization payments for the purposes of calculating the solvency asset adjustment and the solvency balance corresponds to the interest rate chosen for the valuation of the members' benefits settled by a lump sum transfer (non indexed pensions).

# Margin for adverse deviations

As specified by the Standards of practice of the Canadian Institute of Actuaries, the solvency assumptions do not include a margin for adverse deviations.



# Choice of assumptions

The assumptions used to value the members benefits settled by a lump sum transfer are in accordance with the Plan provisions, the applicable legislation as well as Section 3800 of the Canadian Institute of Actuaries' Standards of Practice for Pension Commuted Values (Revised December 8, 2008 and as amended from time to time, if applicable).

The assumptions used to value the benefits of members and beneficiaries settled by the purchase of annuities with an insurance company are in conformity with the educational note published on April 14, 2010 by the Canadian Institute of Actuaries and are based on an estimate of the premium that would be required by an insurer to guarantee payment of the pensions.

In determining the solvency liability adjustment, the interest rates used were calculated as follows:

Table B.3 – Determination of the interest rates to stabilize fluctuations

Date	Rates for transfer of values	Rates for transfer of values	Rates for purchase of annuities
	first 10 years	after 10 years	
mm-dd-yyyy	%	%	%
31/12/2005	4.90	5.50	4.50
31/12/2006	5.10	5.30	4.60
31/12/2007	5.20	5.40	4.50
31/12/2008	4.20	5.70	4.85
31/12/2009	3.90	5.40	4.49
Average interest rates	4.66	5.46	4.59

The average interest rates (first 10 years and after) used to value the members benefits which, in case of Plan wind-up, would be settled by a lump sum transfer are calculated using rates that conform to the Plan provisions, the applicable legislation as well as Section 3800 of the Canadian Institute of Actuaries' Standards of Practice for Pension Commuted Values effective as at December 31, 2009 assuming this section, as it read on December 31, 2009, had been in effect for the years prior to 2009.

The average interest rate used to value the members benefits which, in case of Plan wind-up, would be settled by the purchase of annuities is calculated using rates that conform to the educational notes published by the Canadian Institute of Actuaries and applicable as at these different chosen dates, taking into account the plan's annuity purchase size as at December 31, 2009. These rates are based on an estimate of the premium that would be required by an insurer to guarantee payment of the pensions.

In determining the solvency asset adjustment, the interest rates used to calculate the expected investment earnings for each year correspond to the rates for transfer of values for the first 10 years indicated in the table above.



Allowance has been made for administrative, actuarial and legal costs which would be incurred if the Plan were to be wound up, based on sufficient and reliable data. It is assumed that the wind-up date, the calculation date and the settlement date are coincident, and as such, expenses related to investment policy reviews, investment and custodial fees are not included. Expenses related to the resolution of surplus and deficit issues are not taken into account. It is assumed that plan wind-up is not due to employer insolvency and that assets are realized at their market value, as shown in the financial statements. The amount of expenses is only an approximation and may differ significantly from real expenses incurred on plan wind-up, for example, in case of litigations, bankruptcy and eventual replacement by a third-party administrator.



# Appendix C – Assets

#### Source of information

The invested assets are held by Fiducie Desjardins. We have relied upon the information contained in the financial statements prepared by Fiducie Desjardins and Pratte, Bélanger Chartered Accountants Inc. following tests of reasonableness with respect to contributions, benefit payments and investment income. There was no indication of problem with the assets in their report.

### **Statement of Market Value**

The following table shows the asset mix as at December 31, 2009 and for comparison, the mix as at December 31, 2008.

Table C.1 - Assets at Market Value

		December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
		\$	\$
Inv	vested assets		
>	Cash and notes	3,362,339	3,273,917
>	Bonds	21,307,707	22,412,445
>	Equities and pooled funds	83,224,693	63,090,303
>	Total	107,894,739	88,776,665
Ot	her assets		
>	Contributions receivable	1,065,568	1,344,823
>	Accounts payable	(676,295)	(1,060,395)
>	Total	389,273	284,428
То	tal market value of assets	108,284,012	89,061,093



# **Changes to Plan Assets**

The following tables show changes to the Plan assets held by Fiducie Desjardins during the intervaluation period, based on market values. The reconciliation is based on the statements issued by Pratte, Bélanger Chartered Accountants Inc as by Fiducie Desjardins.

Table C.2 - Reconciliation

		2009
		\$
Ass	sets at beginning of year	89,061,093
Re	ceipts	
>	Contributions <sup>1</sup>	
	<ul><li>Employee</li></ul>	1,982,581
	<ul> <li>Employer current service cost</li> </ul>	6,089,435
	<ul> <li>Employer amortization payments</li> </ul>	1,361,773
	<ul> <li>Total contributions</li> </ul>	9,433,789
>	Transfers from other plans	_
>	Investment income	15,622,263
>	Special contributions for 2008	1,324,451
>	Total receipts	26,380,503
Dis	bursements	
>	Benefits	
	<ul> <li>Pensions paid</li> </ul>	3,328,448
	<ul> <li>Contribution and transfer refunds</li> </ul>	2,957,829
	<ul><li>Total benefits</li></ul>	6,286,277
>	Transfers to other plans	160,990
>	Expenses (fees)	710,317
>	Total disbursements	7,157,584
As	sets at end of year	108,284,012

<sup>1</sup> Total contributions as per financial statements were split as per December 31, 2008 actuarial valuation.



## Asset Valuation Method - Going-concern

The actuarial value of assets used to determine the going-concern financial position is based on a market value, adjusted for payments due to and payable from the pension fund, while smoothing out market fluctuations. The actuarial value of assets is determined by subtracting from the market value as at the valuation date, an amount equal to:

- a)  $66^{2}/_{3}$  % of the difference between the actual market value and the expected value as at December 31, 2009, plus
- b)  $33^{1}/_{3}$ % of the difference between the actual market value and the expected value as at December 31, 2008.

Expected investment earnings are calculated by assuming the fund assets at the beginning of the Plan year and cash flows during the Plan year will earn the going-concern valuation interest rate.

This method was also used in the previous valuation.

Table C.3 - Actuarial Value of Assets

Year	Market value (beginning of year)	Contributions paid	Benefits paid and transfers	Administrative fees	Anticipated rate of return	Anticipated return
	\$	\$	\$	\$	%	\$
2006	80,038,600	11,069,000	4,893,500	585,700	6.50	5,403,200
2007	96,975,300	9,982,500	5,285,300	560,800	6.50	6,456,100
Jan. 1, 2008 to Apr. 14, 2008	102,035,000	2,379,200	1,330,200	171,200	1.85	1,899,500
Apr. 14 2008 to Dec. 31, 2008	103,594,900	6,371,600	9,400,700	431,400	4.29	4,379,700
2009	89,061,000	10,758,200	6,447,300	710,300	6.00	5,473,000

Table C.3 – Actuarial Value of Assets (continued)

Year	Anticipated assets (end of year)	Actual assets (end of year)	Actual return	Difference: actual less anticipated assets	Adjustment	Actuarial value (end of year)
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2006	91,617,200	96,975,300	10,761,300	5,358,100	3,833,000	93,142,300
2007	108,128,600	102,035,000	362,400	(6,093,600)	(2,276,400)	104,311,400
Jan. 1, 2008 to Apr. 14, 2008	104,983,300	103,594,900	511,000	(1,388,400)	(2,671,400)	106,266,200
Apr. 14 2008 to Dec. 31, 2008	104,945,500	89,061,000	(11,504,800)	(15,884,400)	(13,032,400)	102,093,400
2009	98,844,900	108,284,000	14,912,100	9,439,100	535,100	107,748,900



## Asset Valuation Method - Solvency

The actuarial value of assets used to determine the solvency financial position is based on a market value, adjusted for payments due to and payable from the pension fund, while smoothing out market fluctuations. The actuarial value of assets is determined by subtracting from the market value as at the valuation date, an amount equal to:

- a) 80% of the difference between the actual market value and the expected market value as at December 31, 2009, plus
- b) 60% of the difference between the actual market value and the expected market value as at December 31, 2008, plus
- c) 40% of the difference between the actual market value and the expected market value as at December 31, 2007, plus
- d) 20% of the difference between the actual market value and the expected market value as at December 31, 2006.

Expected investment earnings are calculated by assuming the fund assets at the beginning of the Plan year and cash flows during the Plan year will earn the solvency valuation interest rate.

This method was also used in the previous valuation.

Table C.4 - Actuarial Value of Assets - Solvency

Year	Market value (beginning of year)	Contributions paid	Benefits paid and transfers	Administrative fees	Anticipated rate of return	Anticipated return
	\$	\$	\$	\$	%	\$
2006	80,038,600	11,069,000	4,893,500	585,700	4.90	4,073,200
2007	96,975,300	9,982,500	5,285,300	560,800	5.10	5,065,500
Jan. 1, 2008 to Apr. 14, 2008	102,035,000	2,379,200	1,330,200	171,200	1.48	1,519,600
Apr. 14 2008 to Dec. 31, 2008	103,594,900	6,371,600	9,400,700	431,400	3.72	3,795,700
2009	89,061,000	10,758,200	6,447,300	710,300	4.20	3,831,100



Table C.4 – Actuarial Value of Assets - Solvency (continued)

Year	Anticipated assets (end of year)	Actual assets (end of year)	Actual return	Difference: actual less anticipated assets	Adjustment	Actuarial value (end of year)
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2006	90,287,200	96,975,300	10,761,300	6,688,100	5,464,300	91,511,000
2007	106,738,100	102,035,000	362,400	(4,703,100)	(906,000)	102,941,000
Jan. 1, 2008 to Apr. 14, 2008	104,603,400	103,594,900	511,000	(1,008,500)	(738,500)	104,333,400
Apr. 14 2008 to Dec. 31, 2008	104,361,500	89,061,000	(11,504,800)	(15,300,500)	(12,590,500)	101,651,500
2009	97,203,000	108,284,000	14,912,100	11,081,000	(1,464,200)	109,748,200

### **Return of Assets**

The Plan assets earned the following annualized rates of return, net after investment manager fees and other expenses charged to the fund:

Table C.5 - Rate of Returns

	Year	Market value basis	Actuarial value basis
		%	%
2008		(10.90)	(0.23)
2009		16.35	1.29



# Appendix D – Membership Data

# **Description of Membership Data**

Our valuation is based on data provided to us by the Plan Administrator and was compiled as at December 31, 2009. We have taken the following steps to review the data to ensure sufficiency and reliability:

- > each member's records were reconciled and the results of this reconciliation were submitted to the Plan administrator;
- > individual benefit statements were distributed to the members who were requested to report any errors;
- > the contributions and pensions paid since the last valuation shown in the financial statements were compared with the equivalent values produced by the data;
- > a reconciliation was prepared in order to follow the changes concerning some of the active members, retirees and vested members;
- > basic data checks were performed to ensure that age, salary and service data were reasonable for the purposes of the valuation.

### **Summary of Membership Data**

The following tables were prepared using data provided by the Plan Administrator regarding its active members, retirees and former members.

These tables show the following:

- D.1 A summary of membership data
- D.2 Changes in Plan membership
- D.3 Distribution of active members according to age and service as at December 31, 2009 (Non-contributory option)
- D.4 Distribution of active members according to age and service as at December 31, 2009 (Contributory option)
- D.5 Distribution of active members according to age and service as at December 31, 2009 (Sun Media option)



Table D.1 – Summary of Membership Data

	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
Active members <sup>1</sup>		
Non-contributory members		
Number	104	108
Total payroll for following year	\$6,918,300	\$7,105,000
Average salary	\$66,500	\$65,800
Total limited payroll for following year	\$6,792,400	\$6,975,500
Average limited salary	\$65,300	\$64,600
Average age	44.8	44.6
Average hire service	13.5	13.0
Contributory members		
Number	578	605
Total payroll for following year	\$40,615,900	\$42,188,500
Average salary	\$70,300	\$69,700
Total limited payroll for following year	\$40,044,700	\$41,477,900
Average limited salary	\$69,300	\$68,600
Average age	47.7	47.5
Average hire service	13.5	13.4
Designated members		
Number	56	61
Total payroll for following year <sup>2</sup>	\$16,395,100	\$17,585,800
Average salary	\$292,800	\$288,300
Total limited payroll for following year	\$6,761,200	\$7,204,600
Average limited salary	\$120,700	\$118,100
Average age	52.0	51.1
Average hire service	20.6	19.3
Sun Media option		
Number	90	101
Total payroll for following year	\$5,661,400	\$6,404,600
Average salary	\$62,900	\$63,400
Average age	50.8	50.2
Average hire service	21.9	21.3



Table D.1 – Summary of Membership Data (continued)

	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2008
Total		
Number	828	875
Total payroll for following year	\$69,590,700	\$73,283,900
Average salary	\$84,000	\$83,800
Total limited payroll for following year	\$59,259,700	\$62,062,600
Average limited salary	\$71,600	\$70,900
Average age	48.0	47.7
Average hire service	14.9	14.7
Retirees and Beneficiaries		
Number	439	411
Total annual pensions	\$3,383,700	\$3,044,200
Average annual pension	\$7,700	\$7,400
Total annual temporary pensions	\$113,100	\$117,900
Average age	71.3	71.2
Suspended members		
Number <sup>3</sup>	75	114
Total annual pensions	\$508,900	\$704,300
Average annual pension	\$6,800	\$6,200
Average age	51.8	50.7
Terminated vested members		
Number	386	357
Total annual pensions	\$1,589,800	\$1,515,600
Average annual pension	\$4,100	\$4,200
Average age	50.5	50.3

<sup>1</sup> Including the following disabled members' payroll as at December 31, 2009:



 $<sup>&</sup>gt; Non-contributory\ members:\ \$222,900$ 

<sup>&</sup>gt; Contributory members: \$558,200

<sup>&</sup>gt; Designated members: \$81,200

<sup>&</sup>gt; Sun Media option: \$1,001,500

<sup>2</sup> Including bonuses paid to designated members.

<sup>3</sup> Including 25 employees transferred to the group RRSP with a deferred pension payable from the plan (28 as at December 31, 2008).

Table D.2 – Changes in Plan membership

		Active members	Suspended members	Terminated vested members	Retirees and Beneficiaries	Awaiting payments	Total
Members as at December 31, 2008		875	114	357	411	2	1759
Ne	w participants	71	_	_	_	_	71
Da	ta adjustments	_	_	2	_	_	2
Re	tirements	(15)	(4)	(19)	39	_	1
Те	rminations:						
>	Deferred pensions	(46)	(29)	75	_	_	_
>	Transfer or lump sum	(57)	(6)	(29)	_	(2)	(94)
De	aths:						
>	With no death benefit	_	_	_	(6)	_	(6)
>	Transfer or lump sum	_	_	_	(4)	_	(4)
>	Survivor pension	_	_	_	(1)	_	(1)
Members as at December 31, 2009		828	75	386	439	_	1728



Table D.3 - Non contributory option

# Distribution of active members according to age and service as at December 31, 2009

	Year of					Α	ge				
	service	29 and -	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65 and +	Total
0-4	Number	7	7	9		1	3	2	1	1	31
	Tot. Sal.	302 329	350 862	594 878			336 387	70 871			1 752 628
	Avg. Sal.	43 190	50 123	66 098			112 129	35 435			56 536
5-9	Number	1	7	2	3	2	1		1		17
	Tot. Sal.		407 469	93 745	223 269	155 692					1 006 339
	Avg. Sal.		58 210	46 873	74 423	77 846					59 196
10-14	Number		1	3	5	3	2	3		1	18
	Tot. Sal.			173 703	266 079	325 266	57 616	251 984			1 245 044
	Avg. Sal.			57 901	53 216	108 422	28 808	83 995			69 169
15-19	Number				2	2	3	1			8
	Tot. Sal.				161 512	136 787	196 455				580 467
	Avg. Sal.				80 756	68 394	65 485				72 558
20-24	Number				1	5	2		1	2	11
	Tot. Sal.					421 472	166 823			238 300	932 838
	Avg. Sal.					84 294	83 412			119 150	84 803
25 et +	Number					3	6	6	3	1	19
	Tot. Sal.					275 379	476 992	368 496	235 580		1 400 979
	Avg. Sal.					91 793	79 499	61 416	78 527		73 736
Total	Number	8	15	14	11	16	17	12	6	5	104
	Tot. Sal.	341 928	793 405	862 326	721 268	1 345 961	1 295 172	777 063	336 083	445 090	6 918 295
	Avg. Sal.	42 741	52 894	61 595	65 570	84 123	76 187	64 755	56 014	89 018	66 522

Average age : 44.8 Average number of years of service : 13.5

#### Notes:

- The age is computed at the nearest birthday.
- Years of service means the number of years of hire service for pension plan purposes, fractional parts being rounded to the nearest integer.
- The salary used is the salary rate as of January 1, 2010.



Table D.4 - Contributory option

# Distribution of active members according to age and service as at December 31, 2009

	Year of					ı	\ge				
	service	29 and -	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65 and +	Total
0-4	Number	13	34	22	26	25	35	10	5		170
	Tot. Sal.	562 798	2 141 329	1 296 006	1 731 207	2 026 554	2 845 500	771 060	360 837		11 735 290
	Avg. Sal.	43 292	62 980	58 909	66 585	81 062	81 300	77 106	72 167		69 031
5-9	Number	2	15	19	15	16	12	16	2	3	100
	Tot. Sal.	63 892	891 028	1 224 956	1 146 695	954 424	596 409	932 902	139 344	184 690	6 134 339
	Avg. Sal.	31 946	59 402	64 471	76 446	59 652	49 701	58 306	69 672	61 563	61 343
10-14	Number		4	7	10	12	17	10	4	2	66
	Tot. Sal.		263 676	425 822	681 311	927 337	1 111 383	887 674	156 342	240 893	4 694 440
	Avg. Sal.		65 919	60 832	68 131	77 278	65 375	88 767	39 086	120 447	71 128
15-19	Number			2	11	12	21	13	1		60
	Tot. Sal.			140 338	735 648	822 463	1 543 625	755 341			4 070 866
	Avg. Sal.			70 169	66 877	68 539	73 506	58 103			67 848
20-24	Number			1	6	23	21	11	11	2	75
	Tot. Sal.				461 128	1 844 005	1 581 441	891 433	672 308	189 753	5 670 895
	Avg. Sal.				76 855	80 174	75 307	81 039	61 119	94 876	75 612
25,et,+	- Number				4	14	35	34	20		107
	Tot. Sal.				229 830	757 606	2 726 851	3 012 336	1 583 425		8 310 048
	Avg. Sal.				57 457	54 115	77 910	88 598	79 171		77 664
Total	Number	15	53	51	72	102	141	94	43	7	578
	Tot. Sal.	626 690	3 296 034	3 117 948	4 985 819	7 332 390	10 405 209	7 250 746	2 985 708	615 336	40 615 878
	Avg. Sal.	41 779	62 189	61 136	69 247	71 886	73 796	77 136	69 435	87 905	70 270

Average age : 47.7 Average number of years of service : 13.5

#### Notes:

- The age is computed at the nearest birthday.
- Years of service means the number of years of hire service for pension plan purposes, fractional parts being rounded to the nearest integer.
- The salary used is the salary rate as of January 1, 2010.



Table D.5 – Sun Media option

Distribution of active members according to age and service as at December 31, 2009

v	ear of						Age				
	ervice	29 & -	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65 & +	Total
0-4	Number							1	1		2
	Tot. Sal.										58,227
	Avg. Sal.										29,114
5-9	Number		1		1	2					4
	Tot. Sal.					89,950					149,055
	Avg. Sal.					44,975					37,264
10-14	Number			1	5	8	13	3	2		32
	Tot. Sal.				289,695	501,009	755,986	226,948	146,534		1,960,525
	Avg. Sal.				57,939	62,626	58,153	75,649	73,267		61,266
15-19	Number				5	13	8	4			30
	Tot. Sal.				320,393	838,578	520,114	207,309			1,886,393
	Avg. Sal.				64,079	64,506	65,014	51,827			62,880
20-24	Number					4	4	4	1		13
	Tot. Sal.					294,413	404,714	246,033			1,001,059
	Avg. Sal.					73,603	101,178	61,508			77,005
25 et +	Number						3	2	2	2	9
	Tot. Sal.						203,873	163,998	152,039	86,205	606,115
	Avg. Sal.						67,958	81,999	76,020	43,102	67,346
Total	Number		1	1	11	27	28	14	6	2	90
	Tot. Sal.				632,292	1,723,951	1,884,686	873,401	383,586	86,205	5,661,375
	Avg. Sal.				57,481	63,850	67,310	62,386	63,931	43,102	62,904

Average age : 50.8 Average number of years of service : 21.9

### Notes:

- The age is computed at nearest birthday.
- Years of service means the number of years of credited service for pension purposes, fractional parts being rounded to the nearest integer.
- The salary used is the salary rate as of January 1, 2010.



# Appendix E – Summary Of Plan Provisions

The following is a summary of the main provisions of the Plan.

#### **Definitions:**

- > Earnings: remuneration paid by Employer excluding overtime, bonuses and other special payments.
- > For designated employees, Earnings may include some forms of excluded compensation.
- > For sales representatives, Earnings mean 80% of commission of the previous year plus normal remuneration, subject to a maximum of 50 times the defined benefit limit, plus 30% of YMPE.
- > In the case of the non-contributory option, Earnings shall be limited to 50 times the defined benefit limit plus 30% of YMPE, but to not less than \$104,561.
- > For Sun Media option, Earnings mean basic annual rate of remuneration in effect on June 30 of the fiscal year, multiplied by the member's number of months of pensionable service in the fiscal year divided by 12, plus commissions, but excluding bonus and overtime pay.
- > Final Average Earnings: average earnings for the best 5 consecutive years of membership.
- > Final Average YMPE: average of the YMPEs for the years used to calculate the Final Average Earnings.
- > Financial Indicator: average over 5 years ending the prior December 31 of the average yield on long-term (10 or more years) Government of Canada bonds (series B14013 of the Bank of Canada Review).

#### Eligibility

Closed to new employees effective December 27, 2008.

#### Membership

Mandatory starting January 1st following the fifth anniversary with the Company.

# **Employee contributions**

- > Non-contributory and Sun Media Options
  - No employee contribution is required.
- > Contributory Option
  - 3.5% of earnings up to YMPE; 5% of earnings in excess of YMPE. Earnings shall be limited to 50 times the defined benefit limit plus 30% of YMPE.
- > Designated members
  - 5% of earnings. Earnings shall be limited to 50 times the defined benefit limit.



#### Credited interest on employee contributions

Based on the rate of return of the fund, after deduction for investment and administrative fees.

#### **Normal retirement**

65 years.

#### Early retirement

55 years. Pension reduced by 0.5% for each full month between retirement and 61st birthday.

# For Sun Media Option:

Following attainment of age 55 with two years of continuous service. Pension is reduced by ¼% for each full month between age 60 and by 65, and ½% for each month between age 55 and 60.

#### **Annual pension**

> Non-contributory Option

0.80% of Final Average Earnings up to the Final Average YMPE plus 1.25% of Final Average Earnings in excess of the Final Average YMPE; multiplied by service under Non-contributory Option.

> Contributory Option

1.40% of Final Average Earnings up to the Final Average YMPE plus 2.0% of Final Average Earnings in excess of the Final Average YMPE; multiplied by service under Contributory Option.

- > Designated members
  - 2.0% of Final Average Earnings; multiplied by service as a Designated member.

A Designated Member who retires before age 65 and who has at least 10 Years of Pensionable Service in the Plan shall receive a bridge benefit equal to the reduction in the annual pension following the application of the Income Tax Act limits. This amount cannot be negative and shall be reduced, if necessary, so that the bridge benefit and the total annual pension do not exceed the applicable Income Tax Act limits.

> Sun Media Option

For an executive member who attained executive member status before January 1, 1991:

- o 2% of basic annual rate of pay on June 30, 1994 plus 1994 commissions, multiplied by credited service up to December 31, 1994; plus
- o 2% of total Plan Earnings for credited service on and after January 1, 1995.

For an executive member who attained executive member status after December 31, 1990:

- o 1% of basic annual rate of pay on June 30, 1994 plus commissions, multiplied by credited service up to December 31, 1994; plus
- 1% of basic annual rate of pay on June 30, 1994 plus 1994 commissions, multiplied by credited service from January 1st coincident with or following date on which the member became an executive member to December 31, 1994; plus



1% of total Plan Earnings for credited service on and after January 1, 1995 and prior to the January 1st coincident with or following date on which the member became an executive member; plus

o 2% of total Plan Earnings for credited service on and after January 1, 1995 and on and after the January 1st coincident with or following date on which the member became an executive member.

# For a regular member:

- o 1% of basic annual rate of pay on June 30, 1994 plus 1994 commissions, multiplied by credited service up to December 31, 1994; plus
- o 1% of total Plan Earnings for credited service on and after January 1, 1995.

# **Maximum pension**

For each year of pensionable service, the lesser of:

- > the defined benefit limit, as defined for tax purposes, or
- > 2% of the average earnings for the three best years.

### Indexation of pensions in payment

On February 1st of each year, as long as a pension is paid, such pension shall be increased by a percentage equal to the amount, if any, by which the Financial Indicator exceeds 7%.

There is no indexation on pensions payable from Sun Media option.

#### **Termination of employment**

Eligibility: immediate.

Eligibility for Sun Media option: two years of membership.

Annual pension: deferred credited pension at age 65. The employee may ask for the transfer of the value of his pension.

#### **Death benefits**

#### Before retirement

An immediate or deferred life annuity equal to the actuarial equivalent value of the member's pension. The spouse may ask for the transfer of the actuarial value.

For Sun Media option, the spouse or beneficiary is entitled to the commuted value of the member's vested pension.

# After retirement

The normal form of payment is 60% joint and survivor pension. In the case of the Sun Media option, the normal form of payment is life with 10 years guaranteed or the actuarial equivalent including 60% joint and survivor option payable to the spouse, when applicable.



#### **Excess contributions**

On termination, death or retirement, the member's contributions with interest may not provide for more than 50% of the value of the contributory benefit.

#### **Additional Pension Benefit**

For a Quebec member, the actuarial value of the credited pension payable upon death or termination of employment must be at least equal to the actuarial value of a deferred pension payable at 65 and including an indexation of the pension at a rate of 50% CPI (to a maximum of 2%) from the termination date to age 55.



# Appendix F – Employer Confirmation Certificate

With respect to the actuarial valuation report of the Pension Plan for Non-Unionized Employees of Quebecor Media Inc. and its Participating Subsidiaries as at December 31, 2009, we hereby confirm that to the best of our knowledge:

- > the data regarding Plan members and beneficiaries provided by Morneau Sobeco constitutes a complete and accurate description of the information contained in our files;
- > copies of the official text of the Plan and all amendments to date were provided to Morneau Sobeco;
- > there are no subsequent events nor any extraordinary changes to the membership other that those listed in the December 31, 2009 actuarial report on the Plan, which would materially affect the results.

Signature
BENOÎT DESMARAIS
Name (printed)
Director - Pension and Benefits
Title
Date

Quebecor Media Inc.

