



Employability Forum for Federally Sentenced Women

Monday, February 7, 2011

8:00 am–1:00 pm

Registration from 8:00-9:00 am

Bingemans, Kitchener

*Grand Valley Institution for Women (GVIW), one of six federal institutions for women in Canada, is located right here in Waterloo Region. **One of the best chances for successful reintegration for the women is sustainable employment.***

*Approximately 85% of women in federal prison are **mothers**. In order to adequately support their children, these women need access to skills development and employment opportunities leading up to and upon their release.*

HOW CAN YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Grand Valley Institution for Women, Community Justice Initiatives, and the Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council invite local business people to a half-day forum to learn more about the skills and strengths that women in the federal prison system possess and discover how local businesses might assist these women by providing skills development and employment opportunities.

Local business people will have the opportunity to:

- Dispel any myths and misconceptions
- **Meet** with women who are currently incarcerated and women now living in the community
- **Ask questions** and talk openly with the women
- Learn more about the **employment potential** of this segment of our population
- Understand **what they can offer** as a potential employer

TOPICS WILL INCLUDE:

► Life and work in prison

- Hear about the educational and employment opportunities the women currently incarcerated at GVIW have available to them. While incarcerated, they are enhancing their education and learning transferable skills.

► Stories from women in the community

- Hear the success stories from women who have previously been incarcerated at GVIW and are now successfully employed in the community.
- Hear about the challenges some women face in trying to obtain employment.
- Hear from employers who have hired women with a federal record.

► Support for employers

- What support can Community Employment Coordinators and Parole Officers offer employers?
- Hear women's perspectives about the relationship between employers and Parole Officers.

If you would like to register for this FREE event, please use the following link

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VWHY9M3>

For questions, please contact Jessica Hutchison, of the Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council at jhutchison@regionofwaterloo.ca or 519-575-4757 ext 5260