



December 2011 - January 2012

Please visit our website at www.greatsn.com

# Laurie Jamieson: Giving homes an eagle eye inspection

By L.M. VanEvery



Curiosity led Laurie Jamieson, 51, to be one of only a few female Home Inspectors in Ontario. "I've just always had an interest in seeing how it's done," says Laurie. She credits having an ironworker as a father who propelled her toward achieving her goal.

During her educational journey, she studied subjects that would add to the skills needed by a professional home inspector. In high school, Laurie enrolled in a drafting course and after two years, knew she wanted to continue on a path in the construction industry. She's worked for eight years as a carpenter's apprentice and she's also worked as a surveyor. In the late 1980s, Laurie attended Centennial College to study architecture.

In 1992, she graduated from a Constructions Trades Orientation Program (CTOP) at Mohawk College that taught her 36 trades in 34 weeks, making the Dean's Honour List. In 1995, Laurie attended Working World to study computer literacy. Yes, home inspectors need to be computer savvy.

In 2004, Laurie enrolled in Mohawk College to begin earning a Home Inspection Certification. Laurie chose Mohawk College because it is recognized in the field as an excellent post secondary institution. Cognizant that the Home Inspection profession is one where women are underrepresented, credentials are important. Laurie graduated from the course in December 2008. During this time she also studied civil engineering strengthening her background for home inspection. Joining the Ontario Association of Home Inspectors (OAHI) gave Laurie an opportunity to learn more and receive mentoring. OAHI provides education on updates, trends and products. She's volunteered for the past four years on the OAHI education committee and assists in organizing their annual conference. "I'm in charge of securing all exhibitors for the conference," she says. Volunteering also garners her mention in every conference program. "It's good for recognition," she says.

In 2008, with the help of Viola Hayde, Laurie participated in and graduated from **GREAT**'s Self-Employment Assistance Program. She then started her business called Eagle Eye Property Consultants. The challenges she's experienced in establishing her business include maintaining business insurance which is expensive and on-going marketing. "It's difficult trying to keep up with professional development," she adds. Laurie has completed approximately 25% of the required home inspections needed for full certification and has recently secured a contract that will supply the remaining 75%.

In order to grow her business, Laurie became a Certified Energy Advisor in 2009 and completes energy audits for a non-profit organization. Last year, she graduated from **G.R.E.A.T**'s Renewable Energy program where she made the Honour list again. She now sells solar and wind power. "I'm always learning," she says. For someone who wants to become a home inspector, Laurie's advice is to have a strong background in construction or engineering before entering the field. "You have to be knowledgeable and always be willing to learn." "If you believe, it will happen," she says. "A desire can overcome all obstacles."

For more information about the Self-Employment Assistance Program, contact GREAT today.

# DIDECUEAROW?

## ATTENTION SIX NATIONS COMMUNITY MEMBERS!

Six Nations Elected Council now has **TWO** methods for application submission for **ALL** Six Nations Elected Council **CHOOSE ONE METHOD ONLY** 

#### METHOD #1

- 1. Printed, and filled in and authorized The Six Nations Elected Council Application for Employment Form.
- 2. Covering letter including your band name and number (if applicable). Please indicate in your letter how your education and experience qualifies you for the position.
- 3. Recent resume resume must clearly show that you meet the Basic Qualifications of the position.
- 4. A photocopy of your education diploma/degree/certificate or transcript.
- 5. Place all documents listed above in a sealed envelope and mail to or drop off at:

#### **JOB TITLE/POSITION**

c/o Reception Desk, Grand River Employment & Training, P.O. Box 69, Ohsweken, Ontario NOA 1M0

#### **OR METHOD #2**

- 1. Printed, and filled in and authorized The Six Nations Elected Council Application for Employment Form.
- 2. Covering letter including your band name and number (if applicable). Please indicate in your letter how your education and experience qualifies you for the position.
- 3. Recent resume-resume must clearly show that you meet the Basic Qualifications of the position.
- 4. A photocopy of your education diploma/degree/certificate or transcript.
- 5. Scan and email all documents listed above to recruitment@sixnations.ca

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

SIX NATIONS HUMAN RESOURCES (519) 445-2223 OR GRAND RIVER EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING (519) 445-2222 For Job Posting and Job Descriptions visit www.greatsn.com

# JOB FINDING CLUB

Grand River Employment & Training will be hosting a two week Job Finding Club Workshop & Training in the following areas...

- Resume & Cover Letters
- Work Ethics
- Understanding The Hidden Job Market
- Networking & Calling Cards
- Interviewing Strategies

- •All About References
- •Labour Market Information
- •The Application Process
- Going Beyond The Classifieds

Beneficial to employment ready candidates

10 Sessions (2 weeks)

Dec. 5 - 16, 2011 (9am-12pm)

Registration limited 519 445-2222

# **OGWEHOWEH SKILLS AND TRADES TRAINING CENTRE**

**Pre-Apprenticeship Electrical** – In partnership with Electrical College, Start Date: Jan. 23 – April 27, 2012 (2 week Job Readiness & 12 weeks Electrical)

GED - 12 week start date: Jan. 30, 2012, GED Assessments every OTHER Wednesday 12 - 4pm

**Employment Job Readiness** – Start Date: Feb. 6 – Mar. 30, 2012 **Welding** – Continually Running Assessments daily 9am – 1pm

Academic Upgrading – Grade 12 Math & Physics, Math-(3 weeks) Dec. 5 -23, 2011, Physics-(3 Weeks) Jan. 3-20, 2012

For More Information please don't hesitate to call OSTTC or email Katie@osttc.com

Or

**Visit The GREAT Opportunity Centre, 16 Sunrise Court** 

# FREE WORKSHOPS FOR Dec. 2011 – Jan. 2012, CALL to Register @ GREAT (519) 445-2222 Workshop Name Dates Times Location

Workshop Ramo	Butto	1111100	Location
The Hidden Job Market	Dec. 1, 2011 Jan. 5, 2012	1 – 3 pm	CIC
Creating a Higher Profile Resume	Dec. 15, 2011 Jan. 19, 2012	1 – 3 pm	CIC
Showcasing Your Skills: Portfolio Development	Dec. 22, 2011	1 – 3 pm	CIC
Interview Skills	Jan. 12, 2012	1 – 3 pm	CIC

### "OPENING DOORS TO OUR PEOPLE"