

The Connecticut General Assembly



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Sen. Fasano, Rep. Fontana Bring State's Rapid Response Team to Quinnipiac to Help Former Quebecor Employees Find New Jobs

Hartford, CT – State Senator Len Fasano (R-34) and State Representative Steve Fontana (D-87) are working with the Connecticut Department of Labor to provide a job fair July 10th for the 300-plus production workers laid off by Quebecor World Northeast Graphics when the company closed its North Haven-based printing plant June 30th. The North Haven Economic Development Commission and the Quinnipiac and Greater New Haven Chambers of Commerce are co-hosting the event, which will be held from 9am to 12pm Thursday at Quinnipiac University. More than 30 employers are expected to attend.

"The response from the Department of Labor and the local business community has been outstanding," **said Senator Fasano**. "There is a tremendous sense of community here in North Haven and people truly want to do everything they can to help these skilled workers find new employment."

"It's a terrific show of support for these displaced workers that everyone in the community pulled together so quickly to provide them with the chance to find other employment. I'm hopeful that many of these displaced workers will find work through this process, and am pleased to have been able to work with Senator Fasano to make this job fair a reality," **said Representative Fontana**.

Since Quebecor announced layoffs in May, Senator Fasano, Representative Fontana and North Haven First Selectwoman Janet McCarty have been reaching out to other commercial printers in the region to help find reemployment opportunities for the displaced workers. They also contacted the state Labor Department, recognizing that the agency could provide valuable assistance in providing workforce services to help former Quebecor employees find new employment. In addition to organizing job fairs through its Job Fair unit, the agency has a skilled Rapid Response Team that meets with recently displaced workers to educate them about job search assistance, unemployment benefits and training opportunities.

"It is particularly difficult to lose a job during these tough economic times," **said Senator Fasano**. "I will continue to work with the legislative delegation and the Department of Labor to make sure these workers and their families get the assistance they need."

Quebecor executives have assured Senator Fasano that they are providing the displaced workers with information about job opportunities elsewhere in the company. Quebecor Worldwide Inc. employs 28,000 workers in more than 115 printing and related facilities around the globe.

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