

# Women in Business CONFERENCE



**JUNE 8, 2026**

## **AGENDA** – Tentative - Subject to change

- 830am-9:00am      **REGISTRATION & NETWORKING**
- 9:00am – 9:25am      **WELCOME**
- 9:25am – 10:20 am      **It's Not About How You Start – It's About How You Finish**  
**Opening Session – Elaine Hand, InnerView, Inc.**  
Most of us don't begin with perfect plans or perfect timing. Innovation and Growth usually shows up in the moments when things shift, when we have to adjust, and when the path gets a little uncertain. Elaine will discuss how our mindset and our everyday behaviors shape real innovation in today's world. Nothing complicated — just practical, human stuff that makes a difference.  
She will end with some simple, useful ideas for staying open to new possibilities, staying steady when things get tough, pushing through the rough patches, and making decisions even when progress slows down. And shining when it all comes together! This will help shape the way you lead, the way you innovate, and the way you finish strong, no matter where you start from!
- 10:20 am – 10:30 am      **NETWORKING BREAK**
- 10:30am- 11:15 am      **Panel Discussion – Technology and Agriculture**  
Women play a vital role in agriculture, yet they often lack the support and recognition they deserve. This discussion explores how digital technologies, artificial intelligence, and precision agriculture can help bridge that gap—making agricultural work more accessible, efficient, and productive for women while providing them with greater independence and opportunity.  
**Moderator – Invited (TBA)**  
**Panelist – John Deere (TBA)**  
**Panelist – Brandt Consolidated Inc (TBA)**  
**Panelist – Luz Najera, Ingredient**
- 11:15 – 11:50 am      **Behavioral health topic**  
**General Session – Invited (TBA)**
- 11:50am – 12:35 pm      **NETWORKING BREAK and LUNCH**
- 12:35pm – 1:15 pm      **The Future is Here: AI, Compliance, and the Modern Workplace – Bev Alfon, Partner, Amundsen Davis**  
Employers are integrating artificial intelligence (AI) into everyday workplace functions,

from hiring and talent assessment to performance management and workforce analytics. As AI tools become more apparent in the workplace environment, employers must balance the benefits AI can offer with the risks, both legal and compliance, that accompany them. At the same time, law makers are introducing new regulations focused on protecting workers' rights in an AI-driven environment, creating an evolving and intricate compliance landscape.

Join Amundsen Davis Partner Beverly Alfon as she offers a practical discussion on how AI intersects with existing employment laws and emerging regulatory landmines. This session will arm employers with actionable strategies for mitigating legal risk while thoughtfully and responsibly deploying AI tools in the workplace.

1:15 pm – 2:00 pm

**Negotiation Tactics – Joan Phillips-Hernandez, PhD, Dean, College of Business, NIU**

2:00 – 2:15 pm

Drawings for door prizes, closing remarks – **Laurie Silvey, VP, Business Services**

2:15 pm

Adjourn