

[« Back](#)

## Shakespeare festival plans 'amazing send-off' for De Vries

Posted 6 hours ago

PRESCOTT -- Outgoing general manager Jessie De Vries will be recognized at Thursday's annual general meeting of the St. Lawrence Shakespeare Festival.

De Vries, who was the festival's first paid staff member and has served six years as general manager, is leaving for a civilian position with the RCMP.

Artistic director Ian Farthing said in a statement he hopes to see many volunteers, supporters and audience members on hand to give "an amazing send-off" to De Vries.

The deadline for applications for the general manager's job closed Monday and marketing manager Greg Berrea said "quite a few" interested people have submitted their names for the position.

Berrea said applications have come from the Maritimes and as far away as Alberta. In addition, "there has been lots of local interest too," he said.

He said the goal is to have a replacement on hand before the summer begins.

Thursday's meeting will also include a look back by Farthing at a successful 2010 season and a glance forward with a preview of new developments for the 2011 festival, which runs from July 9 to August 13.

The coming season features performances of Twelfth Night, directed by Craig Walker, and featuring Farthing in the role of Malvolio, in addition to All's Well That Ends Well, directed by Janet Irwin.

Thursday's meeting begins at 7 p.m. at the Red George Pub at 197 Water Street West.

People are asked to confirm their attendance by e-mailing [info@stlawrenceshakespeare.ca](mailto:info@stlawrenceshakespeare.ca) or by calling 925-5788.

Meanwhile, preparations are underway for a Valentine Dinner and auction on Saturday, Feb. 19 at the Prescott Golf Club.

The event begins at 6 p.m. and features musical performances by Ian Farthing and another festival cast member, Denise Oucharek.

Tickets cost \$60 apiece and include a \$25 tax receipt.

Ticket prices have also been set for the 2011 season. An adult ticket costs \$25, a student ticket is \$20 and children 12 and under get in for free.

A season's pass costs \$80 and allows the purchaser to attend any show on any of the schedule dates.

Tickets for a separate Sunday series cost \$15 apiece.

For more information, contact the festival staff at the e-mail address cited earlier or by telephone at 925-5788.

[nickg@recorder.ca](mailto:nickg@recorder.ca)

Copyright © 2011 Brockville Recorder and Times