

June 1, 2023, Stratford Ontario

Stratford Summer Music (SSM) – Recruiting New Executive Director

Current GM Kendra Fry departs on September 30th, 2023, after 2 ½ years of leadership

The **Stratford Summer Music** Board of Directors announced today that **Kendra Fry** is resigning from her role as **SSM’s General Manager**, following SSM’s 2023 season on September 30th, to focus full-time on her Church Repurposing consulting practice. The Board is now recruiting for the position with the updated title of Executive Director.

Ms. Fry will have been with SSM for 2 ½ years, having enthusiastically jumped into the role in early 2021 as SSM manoeuvred through the pandemic. “Kendra’s leadership, commitment and drive to successfully execute two seasons, and with a third on the way, in partnership with **Artistic Director, Mark Fewer** is very much appreciated,” says **SSM Board Chair, Jean Anne McLeod**.

“Kendra’s creativity, resilience and flexibility to manage through this challenging time were key to our success and our positive financial position over the past 2 years,” says **Mark Fewer**.

“Although Kendra was new to Stratford, she developed strong relationships within the community and helped to increase our profile and partnerships with other arts organizations to the benefit of all. SSM was fortunate to have had her steer the organization operationally during an unprecedented time and we wish her all the very best in the next stage of her career,” added **Jean Anne McLeod**.

Recruitment is now underway for Ms. Fry’s successor with a view to having someone in place by early to mid-September to provide ample transition time. “The Board is optimistic that there are many well qualified candidates who will view SSM as a wonderful organization to co-lead, with our **Artistic Director, Mark Fewer**,” noted **SSM Vice-Chair Jeremy Wreford**.

Applications and nominations are now being accepted with more information available on the SSM website: <https://stratfordsummermusic.ca/about-us/careers/>

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Background - SSM and ED Role

Stratford Summer Music stages an annual summer music festival of diverse musical experiences for both regional and wider audiences, to celebrate music and to enhance the reputation of the Stratford region as an exceptional home for all the arts.

Responsible directly to the Board of Directors and working closely as a partner with the Artistic Director, who develops the programming and special events for each season, the Executive Director is the senior administrative officer of the organization, generally responsible for the music festival’s financial, administrative, office management, personnel, marketing and promotional affairs.

For more information please contact – Stratford Summer Music Board Chair, Jean Anne McLeod at succession@stratfordsummermusic.ca

Media Contact:

Jean Anne McLeod | Board Chair, Stratford Summer Music | 416-402-0169 jeanannemcleod1@gmail.com