

# MEMBER PROFILE



## Sara Stasiuk, CPA, CMA Director of Operations, Six Shooter Records

If you haven't heard of Six Shooter Records or the Interstellar Rodeo, you will. An independent record label based in Toronto, Six Shooter Records cast an anchor in Winnipeg by welcoming Sara Stasiuk, CMA to the team as their Director of Operations in January of this year. In the mix of artists, marketing, musicians, high profile events, tours, and album releases, Sara slips seamlessly between roles behind the scenes and in the spotlight, working to bring the Interstellar Rodeo to Winnipeg's front door at The Forks this summer.

Sara is no stranger to the music scene. During her time at the University of Manitoba, she volunteered at several events on campus and ended up with a student job as UMSU's Director of Programming. "I was making connections with a lot of local artists and movers and shakers in the music biz. People get to know you, you get to know people, and then it becomes impossible to leave," says Sara. "I found myself making a career out of it!"

Sara got on board with Manitoba Music as their Program Manager after a couple years at Paquin Entertainment. Into her seventh year as Program Manager, she recognized she was in a great place to further her education and grow her expertise. While continuing with her career, she also began working towards a professional accounting designation. "Pursuing a professional designation helped me hone my technical skills and developed my knowledge of business management and strategy," Sara explains, "It really taught me how to see the bigger picture and gave me a massive toolkit to tackle any problem."

While working towards her professional accounting designation, opportunity knocked. Sara was offered a promotion to fill the shoes of Manitoba Music's Executive Director. After six years in that role, and 13 years in total at Manitoba Music, Six Shooter Records provided Sara with a career opportunity that felt like a natural next step. "Moving to an independent label is a whole new challenge for me. It's all about fun and entertainment, but it's a serious business," Sara says. "The pace and amount of work that goes into supporting a professional roster of artists is incredible."

Being the only member of the Six Shooter Records team in Winnipeg has its challenges, and Sara dabbles in almost every area of running the label. "A big part of my job is launching the festival, building buzz around artists and finding partnerships that makes sense, but I'm also very involved in the business management and strategy side of the label," Sara explains. "I will be working on a major overhaul of our business and financial systems, which are imperative for a music company. You need to have the right systems and processes in place to continue growth."

Working with a talented team behind the scenes at Six Shooter Records, Sara continues to rely daily on the specialized skills and knowledge she gained while pursuing her designation. Her encouragement to those considering pursuing the CPA designation is that they too will gain the versatility she has found invaluable and will also be recognized as top business and accounting professionals across the board.

Visit the [Six Shooter website](#) and prepare for what's to come at Winnipeg's own Interstellar Rodeo.