



JEFF BROCKLEBANK

Partner, Assurance

JEFF BROCKLEBANK is a self-described music geek, but don't call him a collector.

"The only reason I have any rare records is because I like a lot of weird, obscure music," he says of his 4,000-plus CDs and LPs. "There's not much that I'm not open to hearing."



Jeff, who leads the audit and accounting group with fellow partner Tia Walsh, traces his music obsession back to high school, when he started buying albums he still owns today. In Grade 11, inspired by a friend who played, the Vancouver native took guitar lessons. While studying at UVic, where he completed a commerce degree in 2000, he delved into roots music, becoming a proficient slide guitarist. That led to gigs around Vancouver—something he only stopped doing a few years ago—and the recording of an eponymous CD.



Meanwhile, Jeff was honing his accounting chops, too. He began with co-op jobs that included an internship at Walsh King, thanks to a tip from his high-school buddy Kevin Walsh, now also a partner. Offered a position with the firm by founder Ron Walsh when he graduated, Jeff earned his CPA designation and moved up from supervisor to manager. *"The further into it I got, the more I really liked public practice,"* he recalls.



Today, Jeff advises entrepreneurs in industries such as transportation and real estate development, on everything from compliance to operational and financial issues. *"They're growing companies with a lot of challenges, and they typically involve us in many different aspects of their business,"* he says, noting that no two days are the same. Working at a small firm suits him because he's so involved in running it, he adds: *"I like the fact that we're not only working with small business but we're a small business ourselves."*

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Jeff and his wife, Seeley, renovated the house they share with their two-year-old daughter, Chloe, to include a basement listening room for his ever-growing collection. *"If I'm at home, I'm in there,"* he says. *"I probably spend about 25 hours a week just listening to vinyl."* In pursuit of live music, he and Seeley have also logged many hours on the road. They've visited New Orleans together six times, and Jeff's favourite trip was a three-week tour, starting and ending in that city, of musical landmarks in Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee.



If you're ever wondering where Jeff is, chances are he's talking to someone about music. *"I go to walk the dog for 20 minutes,"* he says, *"and I end up at the record store and home an hour and a half later."*

