Feb 27, 2020 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm EDT

Exploring Ansible and OpenShift 4 Integrations for the Enterprise

♥ The Dineen Lounge - iQ Venues 140 Yonge St, Lower Level, Toronto, ON M5C 1X6







Christopher Markieta



Terraform

- (Remote) state files
- Infra provisioning
- Provider/provisioner
- Implicit dependencies
- Specialised
- Declarative
- Idempotent

Ansible

- Inventories
- Config management
- Modules
- Sequential operations
- Jack of all trades
- Declarative
- Idempotent

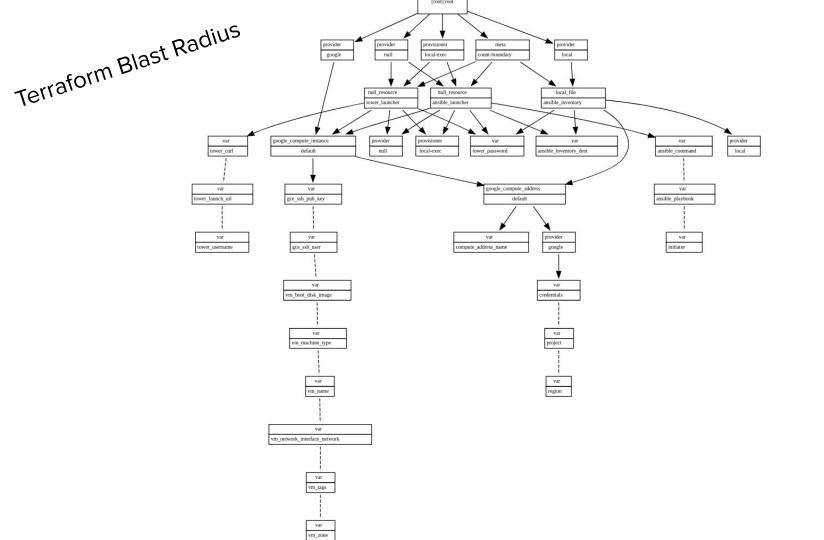
// Use the right tool for the job

Terraform

- Spinning up and tearing down resources is simple and fun.
- Don't rely on local-exec too much.

Ansible

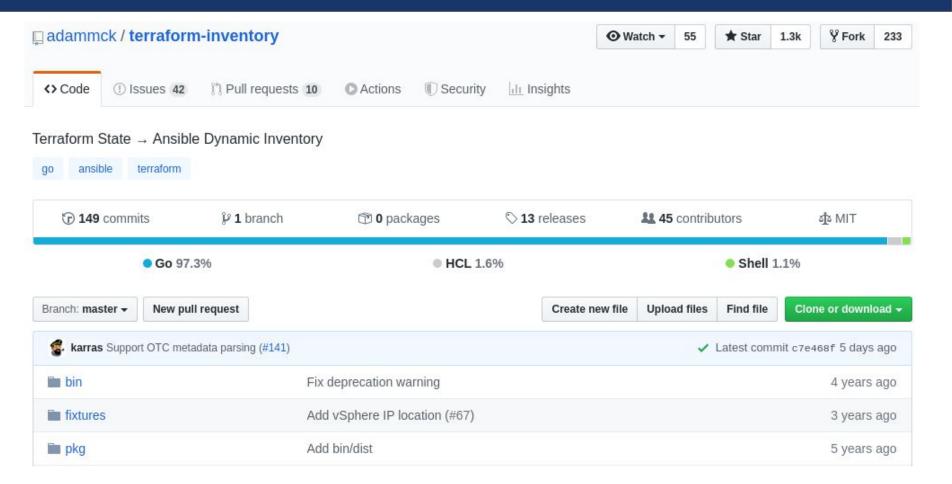
- Configure all of the things!
- Rolling back infrastructure can be a dependency nightmare.



// Jinja Nightmare

```
{% for vms in terraform vms %}
variable "vms {{ vms['group'] }}" {
 default = [
 {% for vm in range(vms['count']) %}
 "{{ vms['naming'] }}-0{{ loop.index }}.{{ vsphere pri domain name }}",
 {% elif loop.index >= 10 %}
   "{{ vms['naming'] }}-{{ loop.index }}.{{ vsphere pri domain name }}",
 {% endif %}
 {% endfor %}
{% endfor %}
```

// Open Source Terraform-Inventory Project



Demo Time!



// Room for Improvement

- Tower Job Schedules
- Multiple (Smart) inventories with filtering
- Terraform/Ansible pre-commit hook validation



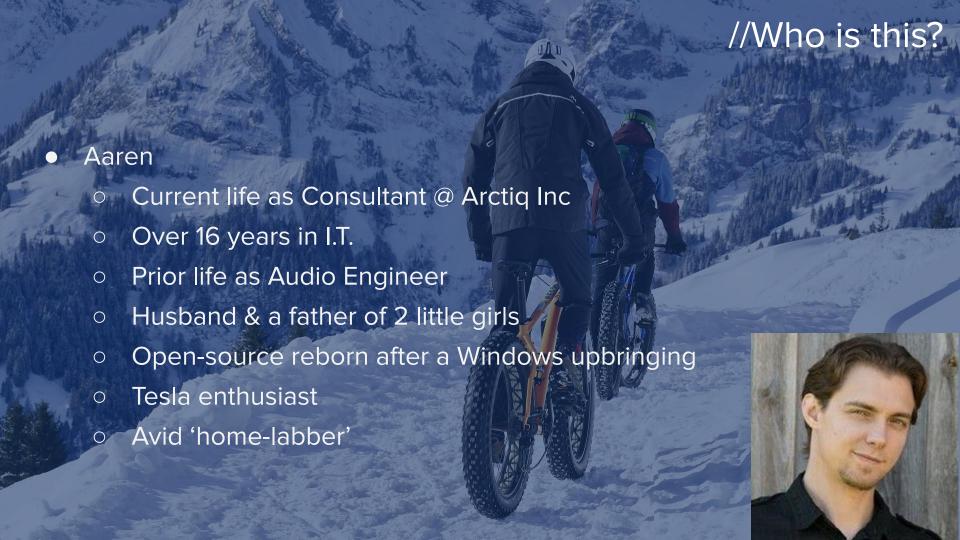
// End

github.com/Markieta arctiq.ca/our-blog





OpenShift 4 Update & Machine Controls

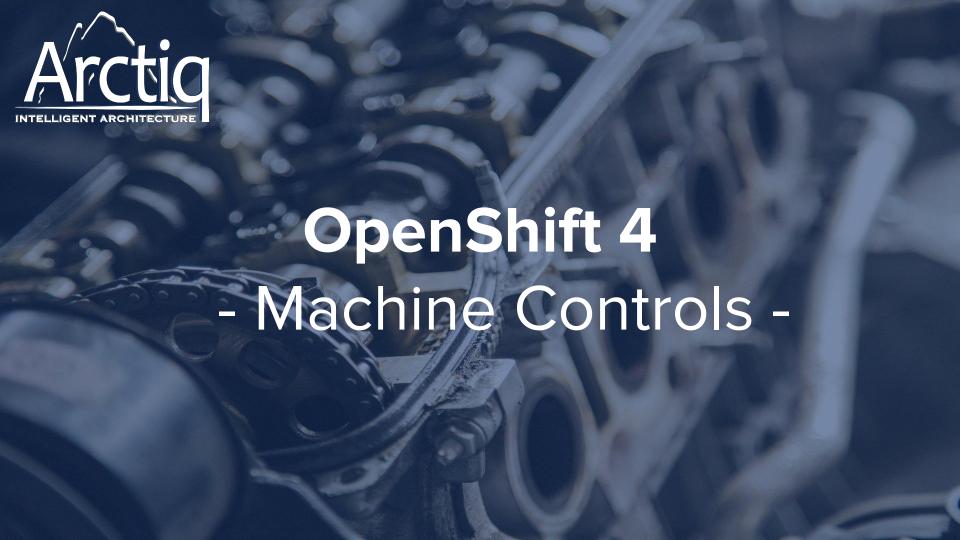


//OCP4 - Where it's at

- Version 4.3
- UI has been improved
- *IPI* currently for Azure, AWS, GCP, RHOSP13 and RHOSP16
- UPI for VMware, BareMetal, RHV, IBM Z and IBM LinuxOne
- Support for FIPS crypto
- OCS 4.2 (Ceph) + various other storage add's

//OCP4.3 - Where it's at

- Private cluster networking options!
 - IPI into existing subnet & VPC/VNet on big3 clouds
- Encrypt ETCD data.. encrypted secrets!
- Log forwarding outside cluster (Tech Preview)
- Helm integration (Tech Preview)
- Numerous other additions & bug fixes



Or, in other words, understanding the CRDs used by the machine-config operator, and the benefits of oc CLI for machine debug

Why Do This?

- Alter node system configs in a k8s native way
 - Secured by OCP RBAC, auth, security
 - Node config as code artifacts! IaC!
 - Let the Operator do its job!
- We don't do node OS CLI
 - * demo with SSH



We don't want humans with direct node OS access!

Let's Break it Down..



Machine Config object - yaml

(contains spec and content of a config* file)

> Labels select worker or master node objects

MC Operator renders all objects to a single config target -becomes part of the MC Pool

MC Pool masters

MC Pool workers

Having triggered a node reload/update machines

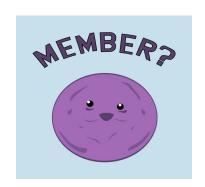
Affects respective

In sequence for priority/ override... 00*.yaml

99*.yaml

Special Guest: Infra Nodes

- Remember those guys?!
- We can have them in OCP4!



- For Monitoring, Logging, Router, Registry!
- It's a bit involved (no demo), but doable!
- We would setup Infra type MachineSets
- Which is a great segway to...

MachineSets

- Not the same as Machine Config Pools
- MCPs are groups of common function nodes
- MachineSets are scalable groups of similar compute-type nodes
- Can be scaled automagically by the MachineAutoscaler and ClusterAutoscaler

MachineSets

- Define things like
 - Labels
 - cloud/infra Instance type/size
 - Block storage
 - Replica count (number of machines!)

Machine Config Pool

- manages node cluster Machine Configs
- Configs such as
 - Node registry access
 - Node capability configs (eg: GPU specifics)
 - Node storage or cri-o configs
 - Garbage collection settings

Machine Config (File) Change Demo

MachineSet Scaling Demo

CoreOS Node Debug Demo

Q&A



arctiq.ca/our-blog learn.openshift.com

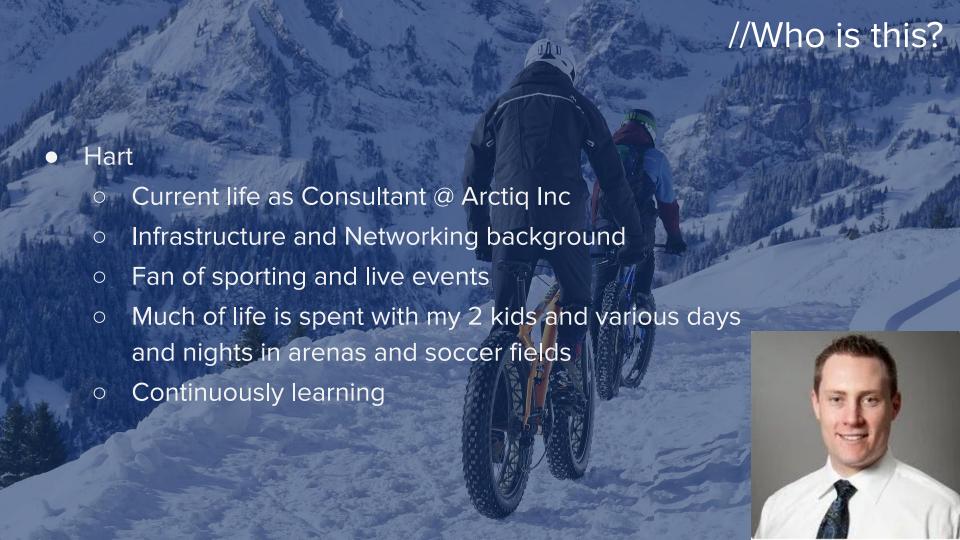






Ansible Tower

- Integrations -

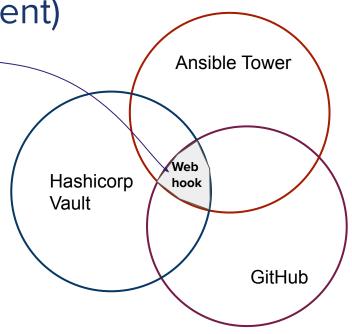


//Complementary Toolsets

- Ansible Tower
- HashiCorp Vault

GitHub (source code management)

Webhook



//Integrations Overview

Why Integrate? ... Better Together

- Ansible Tower → HashiCorp Vault for secrets/keys/certs
- Allows security team to be responsible for credential vault/access policies/roles
- Ansible Tower for orchestration leveraging RBAC/workflows/configuration management
- Keys/Passwords are stored and managed centrally

Ansible Tower with HashiCorp Vault Secrets Engine

- Extend the existing Ansible Tower encrypted credential store
 - Support other tools/integration (purpose-built) and best-of-breed
- Secure, versioned credentials (history)
- Centralized security strategy
- Security audit logging in Vault

Demo Time!



Ansible Tower

- Git Workflows with Webhook Integration
- Ansible Tower now has built-in Webhook capabilities in Job Templates!
- Uses PAT and supports GitHub and GitLab atm
- Calls the Tower API when code is pushed to the SCM repository

//Use Case 2

Ansible Tower

- Git Workflows with Webhook Integration
- Highlight the Ansible Tower API capabilities
- Use Git as centralized approval workflow for code
- Easily rollback/revert
- Branch protection/PR Workflow/Slack Notification
- laC
- No credentials in Git!

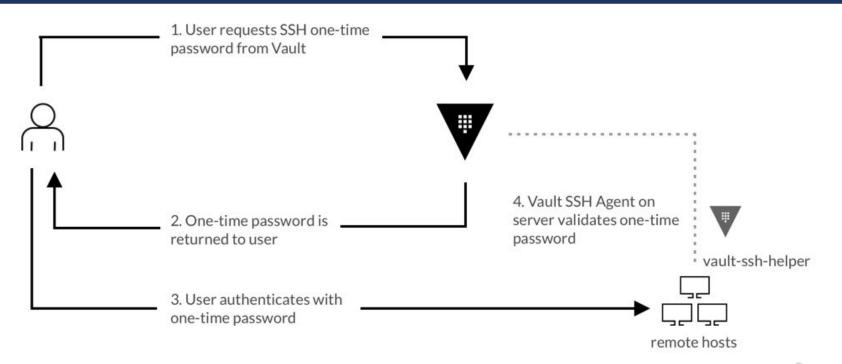
Demo Time!



Ansible Tower - Dynamic SSH Secrets

- Bye! Bye! to the copy and pasting of credentials... updates/username/passwords ERROR PRONE!!
 - Centralized AND secure management of secrets
- Remote device authentication and management using Vault issues OTP/credentials
- TLS between Ansible Tower and Vault
- Bootstrapping

//OTP





Demo Time!



THANK YOU!!!

