

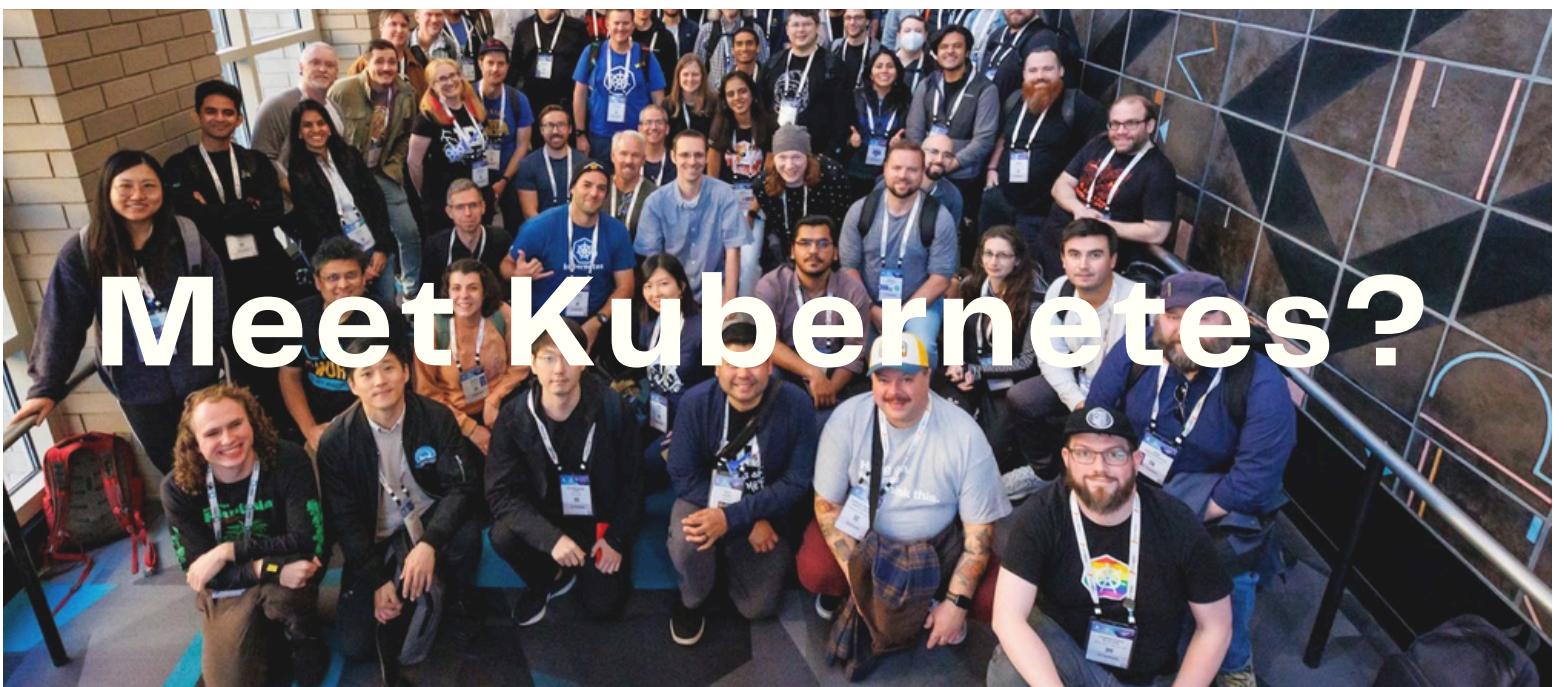
# **GETTING STARTED AS A CONTRIBUTOR IN THE KUBERNETES.**

The Kubernetes logo, which is a white steering wheel icon inside a blue hexagon, is positioned to the right of the title text. There are four small black dots aligned horizontally to the right of the word "Kubernetes".

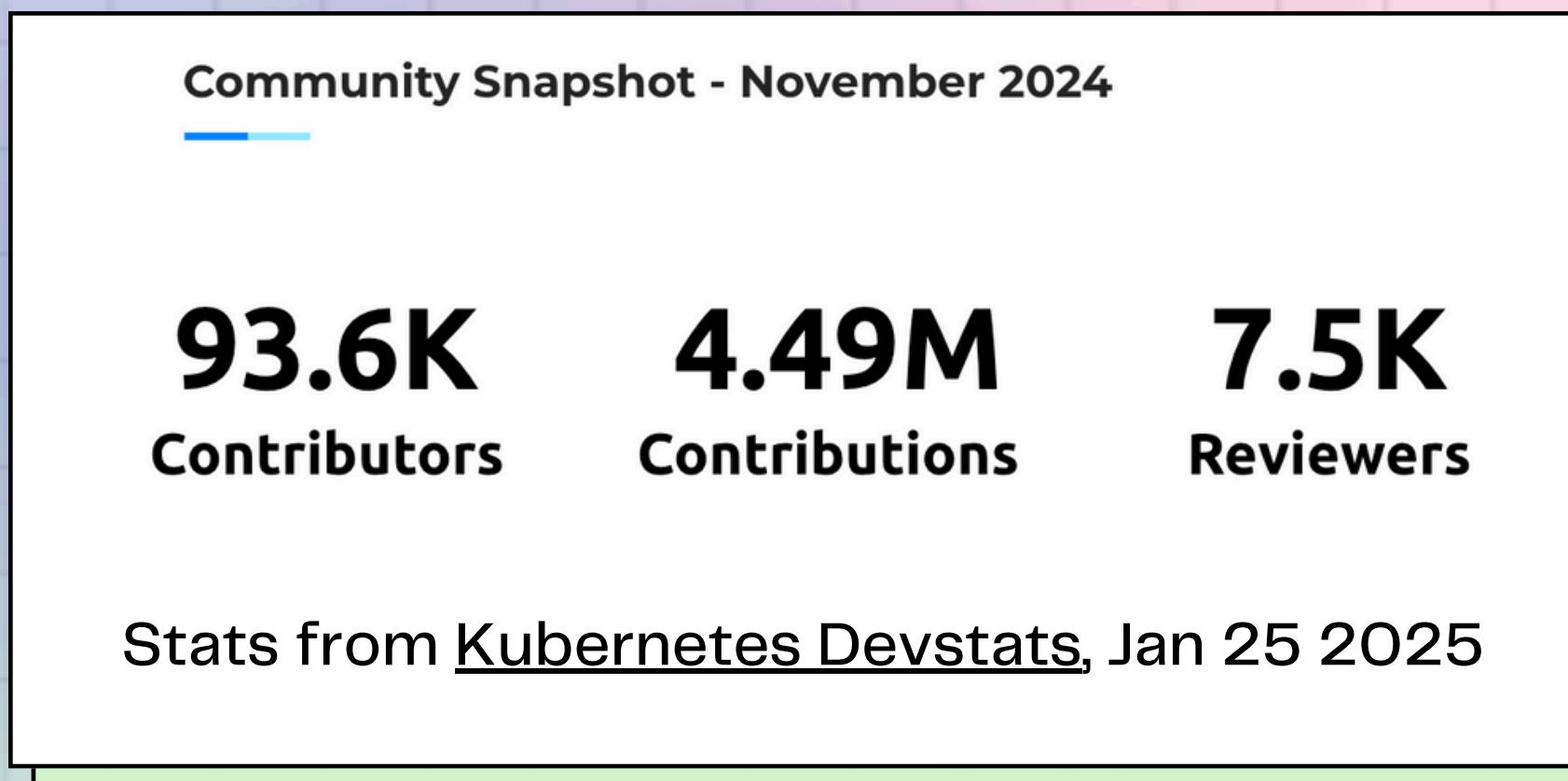
# Today's Agenda

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- 1 **What is Kubernetes ?**
- 2 **K8s Community Structure**
- 3 **What does it mean to be a “Contributor”?**
- 4 **How to Start Contributing ?**
- 5 **Current Work Opportunities**

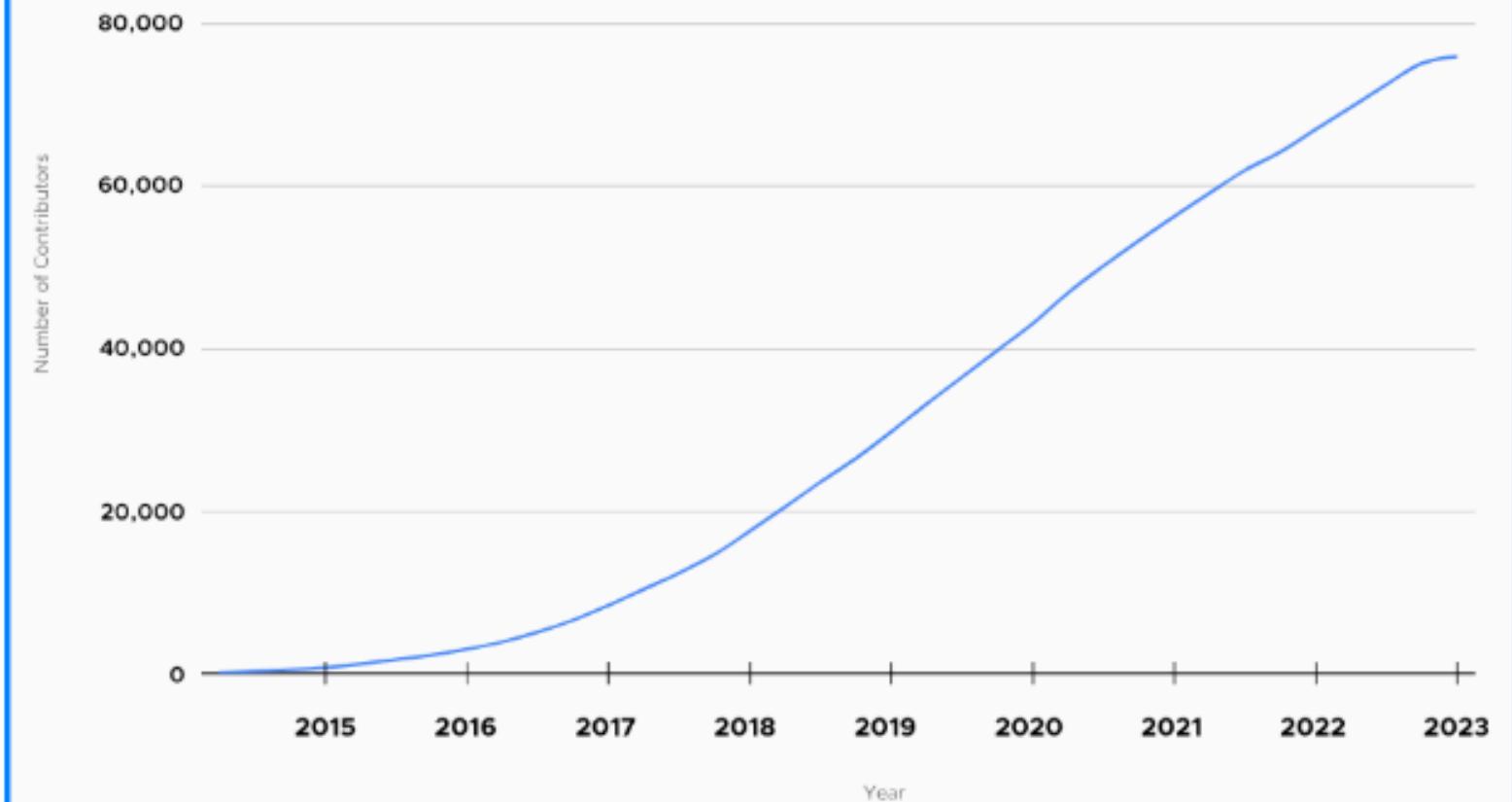


# Meet Kubernetes?



It's Not Complicated :)

Cumulative Growth in contributors Q2 2014 – Q2 2023



Graph from the [2023 Kubernetes Project Journey Report](#)

# What is Kubernetes?

(Koo-bur-neh-tees)

1

**Open Source Project**

2

**Kubernetes is the second-largest open-source project in the world after Linux.**

3

**The open-source project is hosted by the Cloud Native Computing Foundation (CNCF).**



It's Not Complicated :)

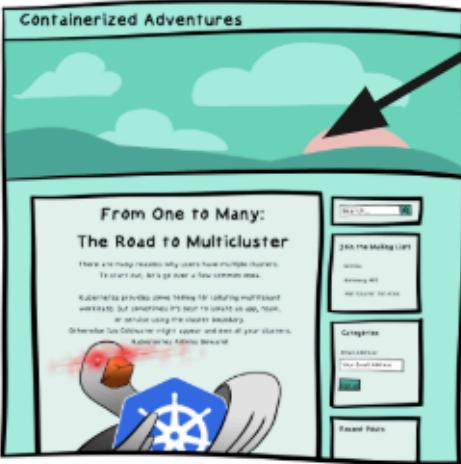
Kubernetes, also known as K8s, is an open-source **container orchestration engine** for automating the deployment, scaling, and management of containerized applications.



# K8s in a Nutshell

Businesses have a lot of apps they need to run, like:

- Websites, wikis
- HR/Payroll applications
- Inventory Management Applications
- etc



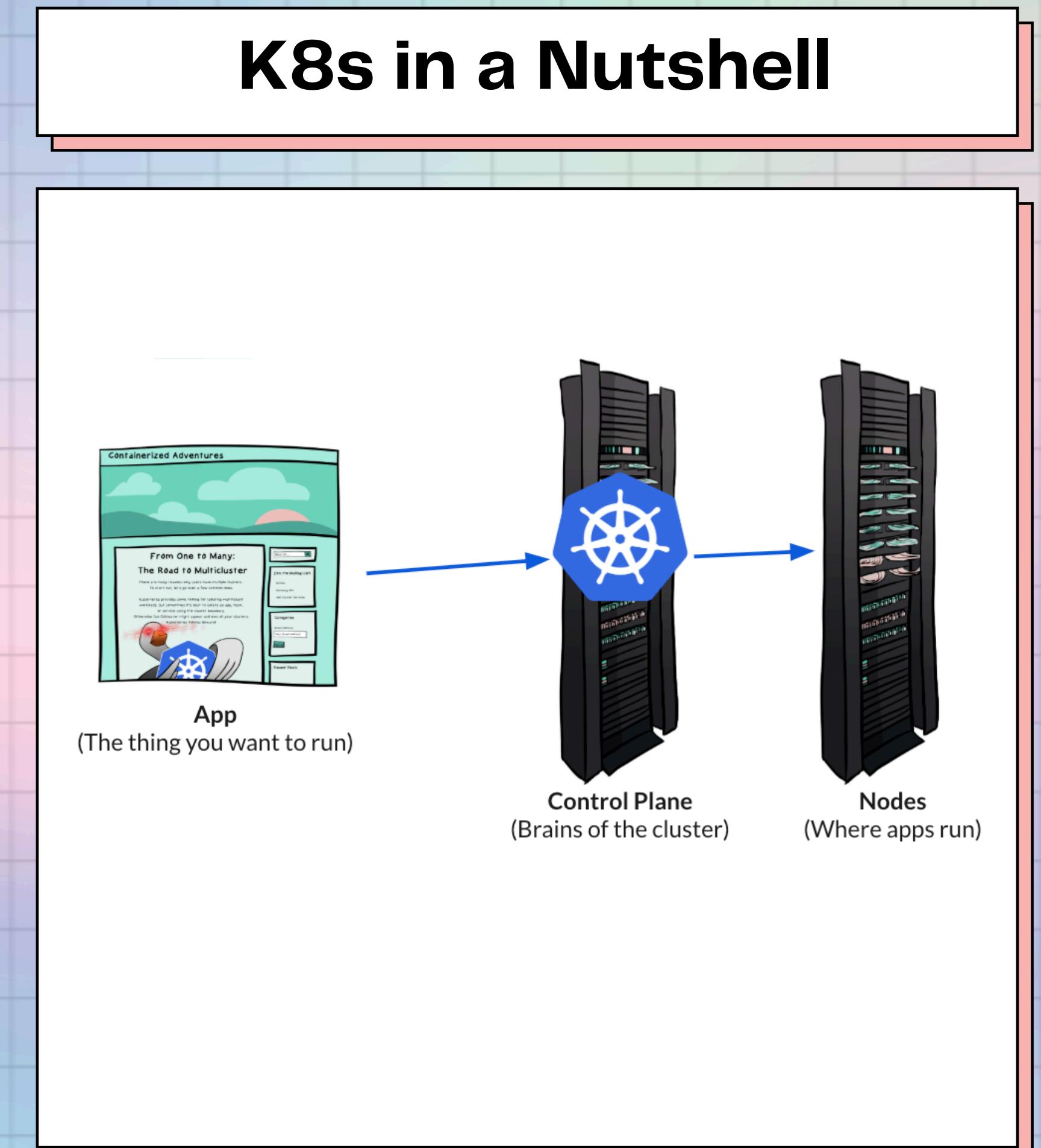
**App**  
(The thing you want to run)



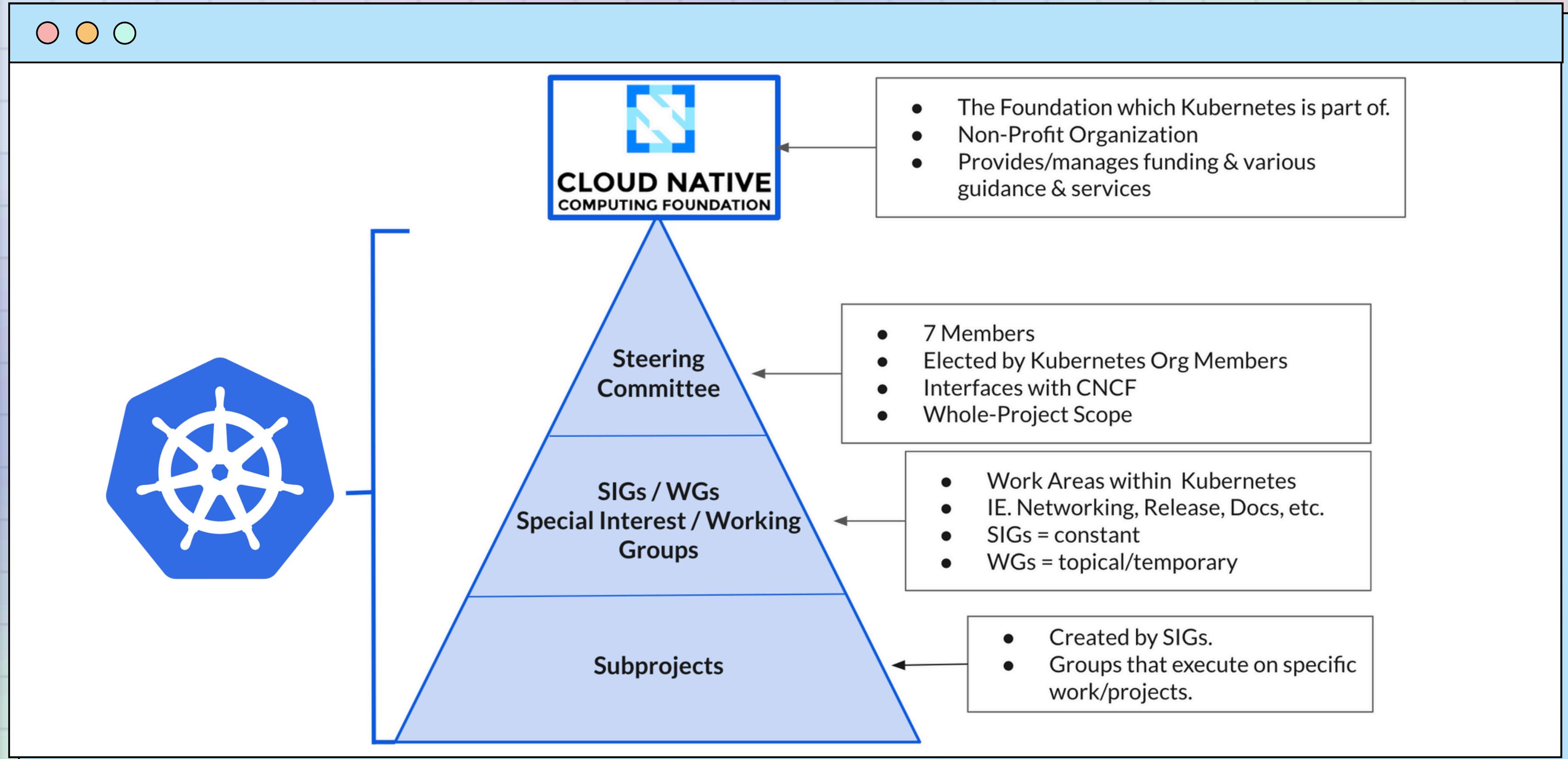
Businesses also have a lot of computers to run these applications on.  
(Yes, these are computers.)



**App**  
(The thing you want to run)

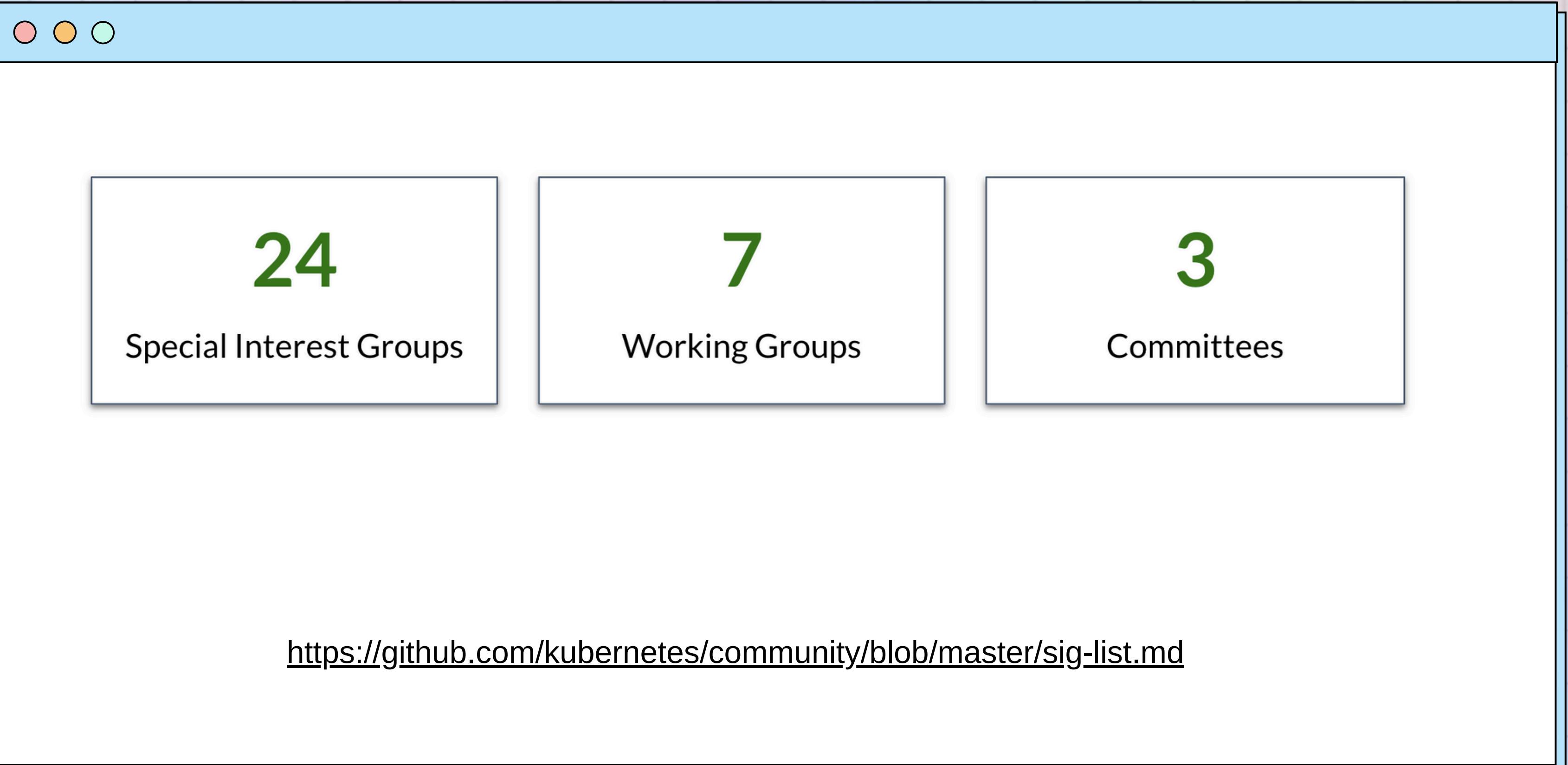


# K8s Community Structure



# K8s Community Structure

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# Scopes

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- o
- o
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We can further group the SIGs and Working Groups according to their scope.



## Project

- 1 Does work that affects/supports the entire project.
- 2 Collaborates with all other groups.
- 3 All other groups depend on the work of these groups



## Horizontal

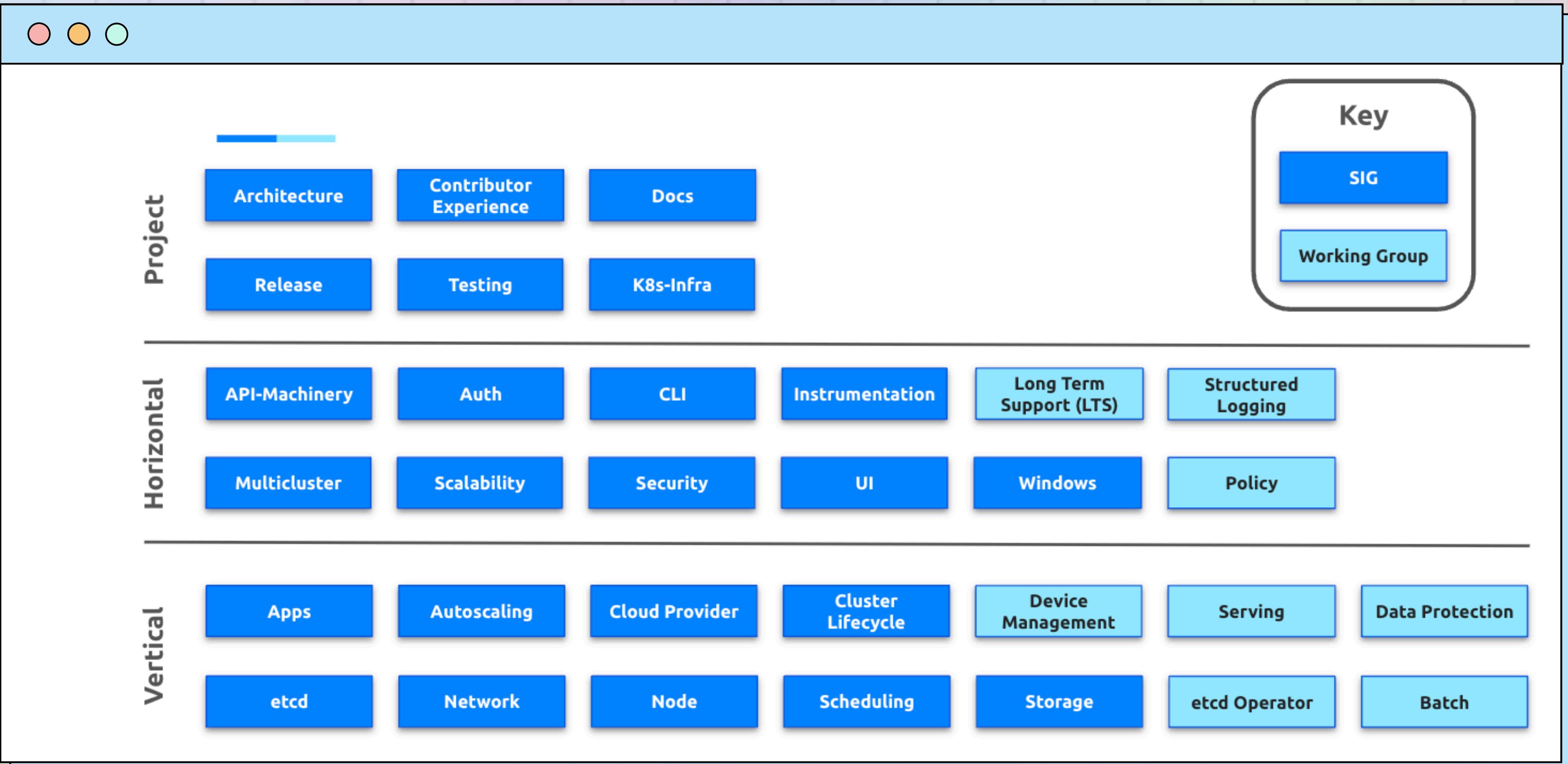
- 1 Has deep, broad technical focus.
- 2 Owns core functionality from a project architecture perspective.
- 3 Depends on the work of the “Project” groups.



## Vertical

- 1 Has deep, specific technical focus.
- 2 Depends on work of the “Horizontal” and “Project” groups.

# K8s Community Structure



# WHY CONTRIBUTE?

Think **Carefully** about  
why do **YOU** want to  
**Contribute!**



OFC Contributing is cool

- 1 Your job requires it
- 2 Grow specific career-related skills
- 3 Network & make connections with other professionals
- 4 Cool Technology
- 5 Enjoy being part of the community

# What Does It Mean To Be A “Contributor”

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**Any work that you do to support the open-source Kubernetes project!**

That sounds broad and vague, but it's important. Contributors do much work behind the scenes to make this project run—and it's certainly not all writing code and making pull requests on GitHub.

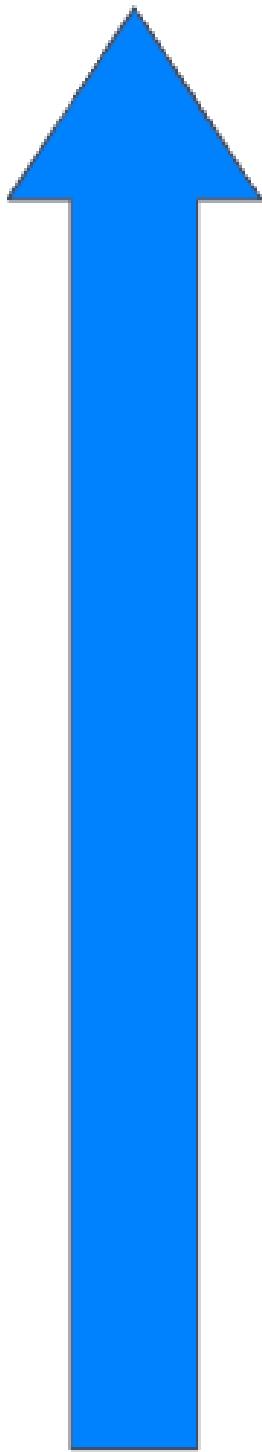
- 1 Taking notes during community meeting
- 2 Asking a question on Slack
- 3 Implementing a new feature, or part of a feature
- 4 Commenting on a KEP (Kubernetes Enhancement Proposal) or issue
- 5 Writing a blog post

# The Contributor Ladder

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<https://github.com/kubernetes/community/blob/master/community-membership.md>



SIG Chair / Tech Lead

- Set priorities and manage the SIG and its subprojects
- Interface with the Steering Committee

Subproject Lead

- Set priorities and approve proposals for subproject
- Responsibility & leadership for entire project across all repos/directories

Subproject Owner

- Subject matter expert for repository/directory
- Highly experienced, aids in triage & mentorship for scoped area

Approver

- Approve contributions for acceptance
- Highly experienced reviewer and contributor in subproject

Reviewer

- History of reviewing; reviews frequently
- Authorship in subproject

Member

- Active contributor to the project
- Sponsored by two Reviewers

You  
Are  
Here

Non-member Contributors

# How To Start Contributing

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## **Just Join A SIG!** o o o o

The fastest way to learn and make yourself useful is to find a SIG and/or subproject you're interested in, start attending meetings, and KEEP attending meetings.

## **Join the Kubernetes Slack!** o o o o

The Kubernetes Slack is the primary way the community communicates casually.

**<https://slack.k8s.io>**

## **Join the K-Dev Mailing List!** o o o o

The Kubernetes Developer Google Group is the primary way the community shares announcements

**<https://groups.google.com/a/kubernetes.io/g/dev>**

# SIG Repo Walkthrough

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# K8s Community Calendar



<https://www.kubernetes.dev/resources/calendar/>

## Community Calendar

Meetings in the Kubernetes Community

*Displayed times are in your local timezone*

list day week month

Jan 19 – 25, 2025

< today >

Monday, January 20, 2025

8:30pm - 8:55pm ● SIG autoscaling

Tuesday, January 21, 2025

2:30am - 3:00am ● Deadline for SIG Testing agenda items

4:30am - 5:30am ● [SIG-NETWORK] Gateway API Meeting

7:30am - 8:00am ● k8s Azure Cloud Provider

3:00pm - 4:00pm ● [EMEA/APAC] Monthly Kubernetes New Contributor Orientation Meeting

9:00pm - 9:45pm ● Kubernetes SIG Release

10:00pm - 11:00pm ● [AMER] Monthly Kubernetes New Contributor Orientation Meeting

10:45pm - 11:00pm ● SIG-Windows CI Signal / Triage Meeting

11:00pm - 12:00am ● Kubernetes SIG Multicloud

11:00pm - 11:30pm ● SIG-Windows community meeting

11:30pm - 12:00am ● k8s sig-node

# Current Work Opportunities

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## Most SIGs

- Meeting Note Taking
  - Always available
  - Subproject: Most that have meetings
  - No Experience Required
  - See the meeting invite/attend the meeting for details

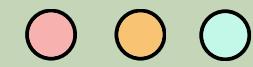
## Evergreen Opportunities

## SIG Docs

- SIG Docs
- PR Reviews - anyone can review
  - [PR Wrangler shadow program](#)
- New Contributor Meet & Greet
  - First Tuesday of the Month at 10:30 UTC
  - More info on k/community/sig-docs

## SIG ContribEx

- SIG Spotlight Blog
  - Always available
  - Subproject: Comms
  - No Experience Required
  - More Info: [SIG Spotlight Blog Process](#)
- Kubernetes Contributor Summit Staff
  - 2x per year
  - Subproject: Events
  - Org Membership Required
  - More Info: [Events Team](#)



## Tasks with Skill Requirements

Often, the community needs help with important tasks that **require certain skills** to complete. If a task mentions required skills, that usually means the group **doesn't have someone who can teach you those skills**. Ask questions before picking up a task with skill requirements!

The following calls for help have skill requirements.  
**These tasks are not likely to be a good fit for you if you do not already have the requested skills.**



## SIG Testing

- Help with Prow
  - Skills: Familiarity with prow
- Conformance Testing ([Hydrophone](#))
  - Feedback and help enabling adoption of new conformance testing tools for end users.

## SIG Docs

- Blog Reviews
  - Help review proposed blog PRs
  - **Skills:** Familiarity with the [style guide](#), [content guide](#), [submitting a blog page](#), and [reviewing PR guide](#)
- Localization
  - Skills: Familiarity with English and at least one other language

# Current Call for Help

## SIG ContribEx

- **Website Maintenance**
  - Help maintain k8s.dev
  - Skills: Knowledge of Hugo Docsy required
- **Mentoring Program Management**
  - Help setup, support and execute the Kubernetes group mentoring program.
  - **Skills:** Organization skills, planning, communications.
  - Help the community keep track of the various mentoring programs we work with (ie. LFX, Google Summer of Code, etc.)
  - **Skills:** Familiarity with the Kubernetes community (org membership?), program management, communications
- **Elekto**
  - Elekto is our homegrown software to run elections for the community.
  - Skills: Python, Flask

## SIG Arch

- General call for help. Get to know a broad area of the project!
  - **Skills:** Willingness to dive in, learn, and be engaged over a significant period of time.
  - Pop in to Slack to learn more!

## SIG Network

- **Gateway API**
  - Ingress Nginx Gateway API Implementation – build from scratch!
  - General call for help
- **API Reviewers**
  - **Skills:** Longstanding familiarity with the project in the area of SIG Network

## Current Call for Help

### SIG Release

- Release Automation help
  - **Skills:** coding/scripting, willingness to develop deep familiarity with the release process over time

### SIG Security

- Help Kubernetes understand and address CVEs
  - Skills: Familiarity with CVEs and security concepts

# Resources



- Join the Kubernetes Developer Google Group (k-dev): <https://groups.google.com/a/kubernetes.io/g/dev>
- Check out [kubernetes/community](#) for an overview of our community.
- Follow the New Contributor Guide ([k8s.dev/guide](#)) to get familiar with various contributor tools and processes.
- The First Contribution Guide([k8s.dev/guide/first-contribution/](#)) will walk you through the process for your first Pull Request (PR)
- Check out the Resources List at <https://bit.ly/kubernetes-resources>
- Come join us in the Kubernetes slack: <https://www.slack.k8s.io>
  - Join the [#kubernetes-new-contributors](#) channel
  - Join the channels of 1 or more SIGs you're interested in

It's not always too easy to get started and it's understandably frustrating, but if you can stick around, it's vastly worth it. We would love to help you stick around, so please join us!

We look forward to working with you, learning from you, and welcoming you as future maintainers!

# Thank you!

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Have a great  
day ahead.