

CHRIS HUGHES

Systems Engineer

Mabou, Nova Scotia, Canada (Remote)

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GitHub: <https://github.com/naokotani>

SUMMARY

Linux-focused systems engineer with 5+ years of experience supporting production Linux systems and backend infrastructure. Strong in operational troubleshooting, system stability, patching workflows, and diagnosing issues across services and environments. Diploma in IT Programming and a BA in Anthropology.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Linux:** Ubuntu, Fedora, Proxmox, system administration, systemd
- **Cloud & Virtualization:** Linux workloads on cloud and VPS platforms (AWS, DigitalOcean)
- **Containers:** Docker, Podman, Docker Compose, Systemd Quadlet
- **Web & Services:** Nginx, Caddy, PostgreSQL, REST APIs
- **Scripting & Programming:** Bash, Java, Go, SQL
- **Troubleshooting:** Log analysis, issue reproduction, regression testing, data validation

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Freelance Backend / Systems Engineer

Chris Hughes dot Dev — Remote

Mar 2020 – Present

- Supported and maintained production servers and APIs for small clients
- Diagnosed and resolved issues involving databases, deployments, and Linux servers
- Designed and operated containerized services managed by Docker compose and systemd
- Implemented authentication, integrations with third-party services, and business logic
- Performed routine system maintenance including updates, patching, log review, and service health checks across Linux servers

EdTech Specialist (Contract)

LearnNorth Inc — Remote

May 2025 – Aug 2025

- Migrated learning management system (LMS) data from Brightspace to Buzz while preserving data integrity
- Wrote HTML and CSS conforming to accessibility and style standards
- Developed JavaScript and shell scripts to automate workflows and reduce manual errors

Programming Tutor (Part-Time Contract)

Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC) — Remote

Jan 2025 – Jul 2025

- Tutored web development topics including Java Spring, Node.js, JavaScript, and HTML/CSS
- Tutored C programming with a focus on dynamic memory management, data structures, and error handling

PROJECTS

Atlantic Emissions Map (GitHub)

Java, PostgreSQL, Docker, React

- Built and supported a containerized backend service for querying and aggregating emissions data
- Implemented dataset versioning and rollback mechanisms to prevent data loss during updates
- Added caching and invalidation strategies, reducing response times from seconds to under 100ms

Homelab Infrastructure (Technical Write-Up, GitHub)

Docker, Podman, Quadlet, Linux, Systemd

- Designed and operated a multi-service homelab using Docker and systemd Quadlet
- Deployed containerized services with persistent storage, networking, and backups
- Troubleshoot container lifecycle, networking issues, and service failures
- Documented setup and operational decisions for repeatability and learning
- Applied enterprise-style operational practices including service monitoring, controlled updates, and repeatable configuration

EDUCATION

IT Programming Diploma

Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC)

2023 – 2025

Bachelor of Arts — Anthropology

Trent University

2004 – 2008