

# <CHRISTOPHER BENNELL>

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Seasoned full-stack web developer with 13 years experience building with Ruby on Rails. I have been making websites since I was 11 years old. I love solving problems, shipping solutions, creative collaboration and learning new skills.

## CAREER GOALS

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**Short term:** Leverage technical and leadership skills to gain industry experience across sectors, expanding my portfolio with challenging projects that drive business impact.

**Long term:** Establish myself at the forefront of web innovation, contributing to best practices and emerging technologies while mentoring the next generation of developers.

## EDUCATION

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**Bachelor of Fine Arts - New Media**  
Toronto Metropolitan University

**Professional Web Accessibility Auditing**  
Canvas Network, Online Certificate

**Execute Program**  
JS Concurrency; Everyday TypeScript

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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**GitLab for Deploying Canvas LMS**  
OCADU IT 2019

**Scaling Rails – Implementing and Integrating CanvasLMS Open Source at OCADU & SFU**  
InstCon 2013

**Implementing CanvasLMS Open Source**  
InstCon 2012

**Driving Large-Scale Installation Displays with Adobe Flex**  
Adobe Digital Partners 2009

**Developing Learning Management Systems**  
CANHEIT 2009

## CORE SKILLS

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- Ruby on Rails
- JavaScript + Stimulus
- Web Accessibility
- System Administration & Automation
- DevOps, CD/CI
- Collaboration & Mentorship

## ADDITIONAL SKILLS

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**Languages:** PHP, CSS, HTML, SQL, Python

**Frameworks:** Stimulus, Turbo, Tailwind, React, Bootstrap, Wordpress, Drupal, SCSS

**Tools:** APIs, Creative Suite, Docker, Git, GitHub, GitLab, Lando, Linux, Nginx, REST, Shell, TypeScript, Vim

**Other:** Accessibility, Azure, Code Review, Design Patterns, Documentation, Graphic Design, Integration, Network, Refactoring, Security, Support, TDD, User Training

## INTERESTS & PERSONAL

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I enjoy running, camping, hiking, reading, board & video games, and tabletop role-playing games. I've been married for ten years and I have an 8 year-old son.

## LANGUAGES SPOKEN

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- English (Native)
- French (Conversational)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### **OCAD University**

*Senior Software Engineer, January 2025–Present*

*Web Application Developer, July 2011–January 2025*

*Academic Web Technician, August 2007–July 2011*

- Proven track record of adaptability and continuous learning across many roles.
- Lead system architect, developer and operations for Learning Management System and integrations.
- Full-stack web application development using Ruby on Rails, JavaScript and other modern tools.
- Cloud & platform engineering and integration.
- Built strong stakeholder relationships to effectively scope and validate deliverables.
- Design and delivery of documentation, training materials and workshops.

### **Freelance Web Developer**

*March 2007–February 2017*

- Web application with delivery of successful projects across technologies and industries: education, healthcare, government, retail, art & design, entertainment.
- Adaptability to short and long-term projects, consistently delivering on time and on budget.
- Implementation of WCAG AAA quality and compliance.
- Developed strong client relationships and ongoing maintenance and support relationship.
- Delivered high-quality solutions that required minimal post-launch issues, with 95% of clients requesting ongoing maintenance partnerships
- Secured 90% client retention rate and generated repeat business through strong relationships with agencies and SMBs

### **Full-Stack Web Dev Instructor – OCAD University**

*January 2008–December 2017*

- Designed and delivered comprehensive web development curriculum serving hundreds of students across beginner to advanced levels.
- Led cross-functional instructor teams of faculty members, ensuring seamless curriculum delivery.
- Provided extensive student evaluations and constructive feedback.
- Designed interactive course modules and assessments, increasing student engagement and retention.
- Mentored diverse student cohorts.

### **Production Assistant - Bitcasters**

*January 2007–July 2007*

- Developed custom web applications for new and existing IP and product launches.
- Oversaw production of digital assets for a range of IPs and destinations.
- Provided operational support for web properties.
- Managed a small team of junior illustrators and graphic designers, maintaining quality and meeting deadlines.

# OPEN SOURCE CONTRIBUTIONS

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## **Canvas LMS**

[instructure/canvas-lms](#)

[instructure/analytics](#)

[canvas\\_connect](#)

## **Lando**

[lando/core](#)

[lando/ruby](#)

[lando/mariadb](#)

## **Other**

[joeldraper/literal](#)

[phlex-ruby/phlex.fun/](#)

[rails/mission\\_control-jobs](#)

## **Personal Projects**

[christopher-b/canvas\\_lms\\_api](#)

[christopher-b/wp-migrate](#)

[christopher-b/canvas-file-zapper](#)