

KAT CONNOLLY

FULLSTACK DEVELOPER, TECH MENTOR, BAH & MPP



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Calgary, AB



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TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages

Javascript, Typescript, PHP,

C++, Scala, Ruby

Frameworks

React, Next, Nuxt, Rails

Environments & Containers

Node, Docker

Infrastructure

AWS, GCP

Databases

GraphQL, MongoDB, Postgres, SQL

Frontend Libraries

CSS/SASS, Bootstrap, Tailwind,

HTML, jQuery, EJS

AI

Microsoft Azure (fundamentals)

PROFESSIONAL OVERVIEW

I am a lucky horseshoe for tech companies. I have helped scale two startups from small and non-existent markets to highly competitive and profitable organizations. My past employers will all agree that it is not luck that sets me apart, but my hard work, attention to detail, and willingness to tackle any task. I believe that any problem can be solved when broken down into its smallest components and I apply that to every task in development and otherwise.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Intermediate Fullstack Developer

Checkfront, Victoria, BC (Remote) | January 2022 - Present

Currently I am working as a fullstack developer with Checkfront to deliver asset and event booking software. In recent months I have spearheaded my own team dedicated to internal tooling, hired and mentored a co-op student, greatly improved the quality of documentation across the company, and created a series of side projects to enhance developer experience with overall benefits to our end customers. I regularly participate in guild meetings and contribute to projects beyond the realm of my team.

Web Dev Instructor/ Mentor / Consultant

Lighthouse Labs, Calgary, AB | August 2020 - April 2023

I have worked with Lighthouse Labs in various roles since completing the fullstack bootcamp in 2018. Most recently, I was working as a consultant for graduates who need coaching in technical interviewing skills. As a bootcamp mentor, I was ranked as one of the top mentors in the country. While working as an instructor, I prepared weekly lectures ranging from coding basics and JS to React and Ruby on Rails and conducted regular check ins and evaluations.

Freelance Developer

Self Employed | July 2021 - January 2022

I have worked on a range of projects from back to front end and fullstack using nodeJS, PHP/WordPress, and Shopify/Liquid. I have worked both independently and as a part of a larger team of other freelance developers and have seen projects from inception to completion or inherited an existing project to help get it to the finish line. I worked closely with project managers under tight deadlines to ensure sound delivery.

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EDUCATION

|| Bachelors of Computer Science

Starting in January 2025

|| Fullstack Web Dev Bootcamp

Lighthouse Labs
2018

|| Masters of Public Policy

University of Calgary
2014-2015

|| Bachelor of Arts (Hons)

Environmental Sustainability
University of King's College
2008 - 2012

VOLUNTEER

|| Co-organizer and Treasurer

[Pixels and Pints](#)
2022 - current

|| Advisor

[Careers in Technology and Innovation](#)
2021 - current

|| Instructor/Mentor

[Toast](#)
2023 - current
[QueerTech](#)
2023 - 2024
[Chic Geek](#)
2021

WORK EXPERIENCE CONTINUED

Software Engineer

Neo Financial, Calgary, AB | Sept 2019 - July 2021

I joined Neo Financial when the company had 20 employees, the first female hired at the time. I helped build the core codebase and from there worked on everything from database management to building frontend clients and data and infrastructure projects. I launched Neo's first three products and developed company culture across departments. I created and implemented a technical training program that was critical in onboarding software engineers of all levels. This program grew the department from under 20 to over 80 engineers in less than 6 months.

Community Manager & Career Services

Lighthouse Labs, Calgary, AB | January 2019 - August 2019

I was Lighthouse's first full time employee in Alberta. I was tasked with setting up the company for success in a new market. During my time there, I created long-lasting and meaningful relationships within the tech community, created events to spread tech literacy through the city, and carved out a place for Lighthouse to succeed after my departure. I curated events with participants ranging from a dozen to over one hundred attendees without any assistance. I saw 5 cohorts graduate and maintained one of the highest employment rates of any location of any bootcamp across the country.

Special Assistant

Premier's Office: Government of Ontario, Toronto, AB | April 2016 - June 2018

I worked beside the then Premier of Ontario, Kathleen Wynne, to manage her professional and personal schedule. In this role I juggled my responsibilities as a representative of the government and worked with staff and stakeholders to ensure that every minute of the Premier's day would run as smoothly as possible. I produced planning documents for up to a year in advance and was able to react efficiently and prioritize when major world events took place to ensure that the Premier was always responding in an appropriate timeframe and manner for the public.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Tech Mentor and Blogger

I am an active participant in many online communities and provide support and free consulting for those who are new to software development. I often take one-on-one meetings but also speak at events with insight and advice for pivoting into the tech industry. I write regular articles on Medium about tech, pivoting, and navigating remote work in 2024. Some of my more popular posts have views in the thousands.