

# DONNIE HICKS

## FULL STACK DEVELOPER\*

### Summary

I completed a History degree with highest honours before working in communications and sales for the second largest telecom company in the world. After relocating to Canada I continued as a professional communicator at the City of Toronto for nearly a decade as an Advanced Emergency Medical Dispatcher. Wishing to grow outside of that role and inspired by the potential of working with software professionally, I transformed my hobby in computers into a career as a Full Stack Developer.

### Goal

I am seeking a positive work environment that appreciates my broad skill set and diverse experience, and gives me an opportunity to work with Javascript, React and GraphQL. I am particularly interested in writing code in the Functional Programming paradigm, and generating blazing-fast, static, low-maintenance, and secure web applications with the JAM Stack and Serverless architecture.

### Employment

**Hyxos** Toronto  
**Cofounder/Full Stack Developer** March 2013 to Current

In 2013 I cofounded Hyxos Inc. with my partner in order to pursue business projects. In our most recent endeavour I designed and produced the first edition of a card game called TZI using Python to programmatically generate image assets. I created our product website with Javascript and GatsbyJS, building it with React components and querying content data through Gatsby's GraphQL API.

**The Brewbox Company** Toronto  
**Full Stack Developer** Sept. 2016 to March 2017

I organized and automated the process of synchronizing customer data with Mailchimp through their API for email marketing purposes. I worked with Ruby on Rails, PostgreSQL and Javascript to maintain and extend administrative and other backend support features of the company web portal.

**The City of Toronto** Toronto  
**Advanced Emergency Medical Dispatcher** Sept. 2006 to Oct. 2015

Following established medical protocols, I determined the prioritization of incoming 911 calls and administered first-aid and CPR instructions over the phone. Through radio and telephone channels I dispatched ambulances crews and strategically managed departmental resources to ensure paramedic safety and produce optimal patient outcomes.

**AT&T (formerly SBC)** Tulsa, Oklahoma  
**Billing Specialist** Sept. 2002 to May 2003

Fielding inbound calls regarding billing questions, I explained policies, billing procedures, and presented product offerings as solutions to customer needs based on personalized profiles.

### Projects

**www.tzi.cards** February 2019 to Current

A card game inspired by the lunar calendar. TZI Cards reimagines traditional playing cards and explores the ancient Chinese system of Heavenly Stems and Earthly branches. I built the product home page using the Gatsby static site generator library, and deployed it through Netlify. I also designed and produced all of the digital art assets for the product and site.

**1hx.ca** October 2009 to Current

A short-link generator based on [YOURLS](#). I have used open source software to keep this personal project alive and running on the internet for almost ten years. Originally served on a shared hosting platform, I have migrated it through different backend configurations multiple times. Currently running on Ubuntu in a VPS, routing through Nginx, SSL through letsencrypt, and data storage with MySQL.

### Contact

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### Skills

#### Frontend

HTML  
CSS/SCSS/SASS  
Markup

#### Programming Languages

Javascript  
Python  
Ruby

#### Libraries

Gatsby  
React  
GraphQL

#### Frameworks

Rails  
Django

#### Backend

Linux/Unix  
Nodejs  
PostgreSQL/MySQL/SQLite  
MongoDB  
SSL/TLS

### Education

**Oral Roberts University** Sept. 1997 to May 2001

BA in History 2001

3.97 GPA  
Summa Cum Laude  
Academic Peer Adviser  
Minors: Philosophy, Modern Hebrew

**Lighthouse Labs** Oct. to Dec. 2015

Web Development Bootcamp

Ruby on Rails  
PostgreSQL  
Javascript

**Advanced Analytics and Research Lab** Jan. 2018

Citizen Data Scientist I - III

Introduction to Data Science  
R Programming Language

### Hobbies

Playing Guitar and Drums  
Singing and Songwriting  
Playing Video and Board Games  
Bee-Keeping