About me

My name is Nick, I am 21 and going into my final year into an Honors Specialization in Biochemistry and Chemistry at the University of Western Ontario. My list of hobbies runs as long as it does wide so I sum it up by saying that I like to learn new things. Being a self proclaimed jack of all trades has its benefits allowing me to apply skills, ideas, and concepts from a vast range of topics, and implement them in creative ways. I am also a highly proactive person who never shies away from finding solutions to any problem from the mind melting complex to the most trivial.

Some of my more technical hobbies include CAD 3D modelling, 3D printing, CNC woodworking, computer and other electronic repairs, and coding in C++, Java, Python and HTML. My mixture of hardware and software knowledge has produced a series of weird and wonderful products designed for myself or at the request of others. While some problems may have simpler, more straightforward solutions than others, the satisfaction of resolving design challenges by breaking down its components into smaller parts and understanding the physical mechanisms at play has always played into my strong suit and allowed me to find great success.

I am a huge self starter, reading something online, or daydreaming about some quirky concept and how it could be improved. I became incredibly interested in hands-on activities including stenciling, suturing, soldering and cast logic puzzles produced by Hanayama. I initially learned how to suture for a summer research job simulating heart valves, however my interest was peaked and so I got a practice kit and learned how to tie without forceps and how to do more complex ties. My soldering expertise came from repairing keyboards for myself and my friends so as not to waste hundreds of dollars all because of a few broken keys. My interest in stencilling came from making homemade cards for my family and evolved into stencils for spray painting and for cake and espresso drink decorations. I mention the cast logic puzzles because I feel they are entirely underrated. These puzzles all work on the same concept: take all the pieces apart and put them back together again. “Seems simple enough” is what I originally thought until I was 4 hours into mangling and twisting pieces to no avail. These puzzles all have their own ”genre” of concept that when applied correctly, the pieces seamlessly glide apart.

Another big aspect of my life is cooking and baking. As a huge foodie, exploring food cultures and different techniques is essential. Learning how to make delicious foods out of generic ingredients means I can eat healthy, delicious meals at a moments notice. Baking similarly is a great way to express my creativity and share it with others. I love making assorted cakes, eclairs, pies, breads, and anything in between.

The final hobby section would be my love for the outdoors. My dog is named Bear which should already give a sense for my families favourite animal to see in the wild. I have been on a 10 day river rafting expedition, and a water house wilderness lodge in the Khutzeymateen Grizzly Bear Sanctuary. When at home in the summer, I spend my days biking, swimming, running, and playing tennis, soccer, and beach volleyball. In the winters I ski both downhill and cross country.

I’ve had some really interesting jobs including being a ski instructor, lifeguard, tutor, technical aid, barista, and researcher.

Contact Info

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Currently, I am in year 3 of 4 of a Honours Specialization in Biochemistry and Chemistry at the University of Western Ontario. Learning about the intrinsic basic building blocks of the world and how they can be manipulated to form new materials intrigues me to no end. Chemical understanding has endless applications over everyone and everything. My chemistry interests include organo-metallics (hyperlink to [**https://doi.org/10.1039/B601574N**](https://doi.org/10.1039/B601574N)) and the development of organometallic polymers. Synthesis chemistry is also an intriguing path full of potential for discovery I also have been reading on recently. Synthesis chemistry has particularly caught my interest due to the potential for development of medications such as insulin, and epinephrine at a fraction of their current costs. Not only would such pathways provide drastically cheaper medications, it could also allow for viable accessibility to secluded areas of the world who do not have access to such life saving medications.

My primary avenue of investigation at my current stage is in proteomics, the study of proteins. Despite being made of the same 21 amino acids,