

Farid Rener

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Software Engineer committed to using technology in a socially just, civic manner. Proven leader, fast learner, self-directed. Excellent written and spoken communication skills in English, fluent in French. Currently living between Boston, MA, Montreal, QC, and Waskaganish, QC. Looking for a challenging position where I can learn a lot at a company whose values I believe in.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Dimagi, Boston, MA; New Delhi, India; Remote — *Senior Engineer* April 2015 - Present

Python, Django, Elasticsearch, PostgreSQL, CouchDB, Javascript, Knockout JS, Redis, RiakCS, Celery, Bash, Ansible

Dimagi builds *CommCare*, an open-source mobile platform for frontline health workers in low-resource settings, that allows anyone to build mobile applications to use for data collection.

I worked on all levels of the core product, while playing a major role in Dimagi's biggest project: *eNikshay*. All of the code I've written while at Dimagi is on [Github](#).

eNikshay Project

National-scale project funded by the Gates Foundation to digitize all tuberculosis workflows across India. I lead the systems integration team, act as tech-team liaison and built a major portion of the applications that will soon be used to track all TB patients in India.

- Designed, specced, and built system integrations to connect CommCare with multiple external systems, including (undocumented) government databases. I currently lead a team of four people at Dimagi to build and support our side;
- Built, along with Dimagi's CTO, mobile and web applications that manage treatment protocols, drug adherence, contact tracing, and drug and test vouchers across India's public and private healthcare sectors for TB patients;
- Oversaw the design and implementation of reports in use by government employees at all levels of the Indian government;
- Acted as team liaison between the technical and non-technical teams. Translated non-technical requirements into technical specifications. Attended meetings with the Gates Foundation and government ministers;
- Worked on multiple performance improvements to Dimagi's core platform;

Product Ownership Areas

I built and maintain multiple core pieces of functionality in CommCare.

- **Case Search:** Designed and built a system using Elasticsearch to index a user's unstructured data, that allows users to add arbitrary search parameters to their applications;
- **Extension case sync algorithms:** Designed and implemented a new sync algorithm for phone data;
- **MOTECH data integration hub:** Designed and helped create the business case around a framework that allows users to integrate CommCare with other popular mHealth applications.

Provender, Montreal, QC — *Senior Developer* October 2013 - February 2015

Ruby on Rails, Elasticsearch, PostgreSQL, PostGIS, Backbone / Marionette

Worked on a semi-remote team to design and build a custom e-commerce platform which offered local farmers access to new markets. Led a team of 3 people through a complete site redesign, implemented backend logic to create a personalized marketplace experience for chefs and farmers, implemented multi-faceted product search with Elasticsearch, and created training materials and documentation.

Aga Khan Development Network, Aga Khan Lycée Khorog, Tajikistan — *Physics and Chemistry Teacher & Youth Camp Director* 2005

Taught physics and chemistry to eighth and ninth graders in a remote community in Tajikistan

- Created lesson plans and experiments;
- Developed and presented a workshop for local teachers to help them use information from the internet and English-language textbooks;
- Designed, led, and organized a rural two-week long summer camp for 55 youth (aged 14–18) from Khorog to improve leadership, teamwork, and communication skills.

EDUCATION

B. Eng. (Hons.): Honours Electrical Engineering, Minor Musical Science & Technology

CGPA: 3.61; McGill University, Montreal, QC (2011). Thesis: *Engineering for Social & Environmental Justice*

M. Arch: Masters of Architecture, History & Theory

CGPA: 3.93; McGill University, Montreal, QC (2013)

Coursera, Machine Learning (Andrew Ng)

Grade Achieved: 100% (2014)

VOLUNTEER ROLES

Co-organizer, Hacks/Hackers Montreal (2013–2015) Meetup sponsored by the *Montreal Gazette* to bring together journalists and programmers to discuss the use of technology in journalism.

News Editor, McGill Daily (2013) Editing, assigning, and writing relevant news stories for the bi-weekly print and online newspaper. Wrote arts & culture articles, and a satirical column about bikes, love, and bike-love.

Radio producer, CKUT Radio (2011–2013) Regular contributor to CKUT radio (90.3 FM) on issues of cycling, technology, and Montreal arts & culture.

Board member, Quebec Public Interest Research Group (QPIRG) McGill (2012) Took part in organizing and promoting events to raise awareness of social justice issues at McGill and in the Montreal community.

Collective member & Experienced Mechanic, The Flat Bike Collective & Le Petit Vélo Rouge (2009–2013) Ran open workshop sessions where people could learn how to repair their own bicycles. Collaborated with Montreal Native Friendship Centre to give mechanics workshops to youth. Created series of winter-riding workshops to teach people how to ride through winter.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Worked as a professional **Bicycle Mechanic** for 3 years. Freelance **Web Developer** for 2 years with clients ranging from the lead composer of the Cirque du Soleil to the Viva! Art Action festival. Research assistant at McGill University in multiple labs: **Facility for Architectural Research in Media and Mediation** (Prof. Jemtrud), **Shared Reality and Environments Lab** (Prof. Cooperstock), and the **Haptics Lab** (Dr. Ziat)

OTHER SKILLS

Writing: Published in *Maisonneuve Magazine*, the *Montreal Gazette*, *Art Threat*, and *Silo Magazine*

Music: Skilled drummer. I have played in internationally touring pop bands. Beginner Marimba player.

Bicycle Mechanics: Bicycle mechanic with 3 years professional experience.

Languages: Native **English**, fluent **French**