How to Edit & Deploy This Site (Tim’s Quick Guide)

# Intro

This project is a Vite + React + TypeScript site deployed on Netlify.  
The safest, cheapest workflow is: edit locally → preview locally → push once → Netlify builds once.

# 0) One-time setup on a new computer

1. Install GitHub Desktop and VS Code.  
2. Clone the repo: GitHub Desktop → File → Clone repository… → timrogalsky/tim-for-trustee.  
3. Open in VS Code → open a terminal:  
 npm install  
 (Run this once to install dependencies.)

# 1) Start local preview

In VS Code terminal:  
 npm run dev  
Open the printed URL (usually http://localhost:5173). Leave this running while you edit; the page reloads automatically.

# 2) Make edits

A) Change text/content: edit components in src/ and check local preview.  
B) Swap the hero photo: put file in src/assets/, import in component, update <img>.  
C) Update favicon/icons: place favicon files in public/.  
D) Update OG/Twitter image: replace public/og-image.png and update index.html.  
E) Add a new page: either static in public/ or add via React Router.  
F) Netlify contact form: already enabled; ensure thank-you.html exists.

# 3) Commit locally (batch your edits)

In GitHub Desktop:  
1. Review changed files.  
2. Write a concise summary.  
3. Click Commit to main.

# 4) Push once (deploy once)

In GitHub Desktop click Push origin.  
Netlify will detect the new commit and run one build/deploy.

# 5) Optional: use a branch + PR with a Deploy Preview

1. Create a branch in GitHub Desktop.  
2. Commit changes there and push.  
3. Open a Pull Request.  
4. Netlify gives a Deploy Preview link.  
5. Merge PR when happy.

# 6) Common commands

npm install # install deps  
npm run dev # run local dev server  
npm run build # run a local build  
npm run lint # lint code

# 7) Quick checklists

Before pushing:  
- Local preview looks correct.  
- Images point to correct files.  
- Metadata updated.  
- Thank-you page exists.  
  
After deploying:  
- Visit live site (timrogalsky.ca and www).  
- Test contact form.  
- Check social previews.

# 8) Troubleshooting

Site didn’t update: confirm push to main; check Netlify logs.  
Build fails: clear cache and redeploy; ensure package.json build script.  
Local server won’t start: free up port or use npm run dev -- --port=5174.  
Favicons/OG image didn’t change: replace files in public/ and hard-refresh browser.

# 9) Credit usage tips (Netlify free plan)

Batch edits → one push, one build.  
Avoid pushing tiny edits one-by-one.  
Preview locally; use PR Previews only if needed.