Dakota Lightning

Senior Software Engineer & Technology Consultant

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OBSERVE
UNDERSTAND
BUILD

PROFILE

Senior software engineer and technology consultant with 15+ years of experience building, modernizing, and supporting production software. Combines deep React and TypeScript expertise with full-stack delivery across Node.js, NestJS, Rails, GraphQL, PostgreSQL, AWS, and CI/CD. Known for turning ambiguous business and product problems into maintainable systems, improving performance and developer experience, mentoring engineers, and applying AI-assisted workflows with disciplined human review.

15+ Years Production engineering	**React + TypeScript** Frontend systems	**AI Workflows** Modern delivery	**Architecture** End-to-end ownership

CORE CAPABILITIES

Frontend	TypeScript, JavaScript, React, Next.js, HTML, CSS/SCSS, Tailwind, Redux, XState, Vue.js
Backend & Data	Node.js, NestJS, Ruby on Rails, GraphQL, REST, PostgreSQL, Prisma, relational modelling
Architecture	Design systems, component libraries, local-first data, integrations, modernization, distributed systems
Cloud & Quality	AWS, Docker, CI/CD, GitHub Actions, automated testing, Datadog, Sentry, performance profiling
AI Engineering	Claude Code, codebase exploration, implementation planning, review, testing, MCP and agentic workflow evaluation
Leadership	Technical roadmaps, cross-team delivery, stakeholder communication, mentoring, documentation, risk analysis

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Full Stack Engineer
Mar 2026 – Sep 2026

Yahoo — Contract

- Contributed full-stack engineering work within a large production environment, navigating an established codebase and shipping carefully scoped changes in a remote team.

Core Engineer
Apr 2025 – Feb 2026

Circadian Risk Inc.

- Diagnosed a production performance problem in a data-intensive React and TypeScript application, tracing excessive memory use and loading delays to eager data loading, in-memory joins, and main-thread processing.
- Restructured data access around lazy loading, OPFS and IndexedDB persistence, and web workers to improve responsiveness for high-volume customer accounts and support online/offline use.
- Evaluated agentic engineering approaches including MCP-based tooling, automated testing, and observability trade-offs; partnered with product and engineering to turn ambiguous risks into implementation plans.

Senior Full Stack Engineer
Jun 2024 – Jan 2026

Freelance / Consulting

- Owned architecture and delivery for startup and small-business clients using React, Next.js, Node/NestJS, GraphQL, PostgreSQL, AWS, and Docker.
- Modernized applications, established testing and CI/CD practices, and translated business needs into maintainable technical solutions while communicating scope and trade-offs directly with clients.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE — CONTINUED

Senior Software Engineer 4
Sep 2022 – Jun 2024

Asurion

- Built and improved React applications and state-management systems used across multiple teams, with emphasis on performance, maintainability, and customer impact.
- Led cross-functional work with product, operations, design, engineering, and leadership; mentored teammates and contributed to AWS Lambda and event-driven architecture initiatives.

Senior Full Stack Engineer
Oct 2021 – Sep 2022

Enjoy Technology, Inc.

- Led development of a shared design language system and reusable component libraries using React, Next.js, TypeScript, GraphQL, and Apollo Client.
- Created frontend patterns and custom hooks, partnered closely with product and design, mentored engineers, and supported automated testing and continuous delivery.

Senior Software Developer
Jul 2015 – Oct 2021

Animikii Inc.

- Built and modernized production platforms using React, Ruby on Rails, JavaScript, Docker, and relational databases.
- Helped scale the organization from 3 to 30+ team members while leading technical initiatives, mentoring developers, and establishing delivery standards.

UX & UI Developer
May 2012 – Jun 2015

West Edmonton Mall Property Inc.

- Developed public-facing kiosk and wayfinding experiences and internal tools, collaborating across design, content, engineering, and operations.

Founder / Designer & Developer
Feb 2008 – May 2012

NLD Studio

- Delivered websites and digital experiences for clients, building an early foundation in product design, frontend development, and direct client communication.

SELECTED PRODUCT & TECHNICAL WORK

- **Card Cloud:** Designed and built a full-stack Magic: The Gathering product with Next.js, NestJS, TypeScript, GraphQL, Prisma, PostgreSQL, authentication, Stripe, testing, and deployment.
- **Design systems:** Built reusable components and frontend patterns that improved consistency, accessibility, and delivery across product teams.
- **AI-assisted delivery:** Uses Claude Code and modern AI workflows for codebase understanding, technical discovery, planning, testing, review, and documentation while retaining human accountability.

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

Royal Roads University — 2018–2019
Writing for Business coursework

MacEwan University — 2011–2012
Psychology, business, marketing & strategy coursework

NAIT — 2007–2011
Interactive Media Design and Business Administration coursework

Google — 2024
Foundations of Project Management

Microsoft / LinkedIn — 2024
Career Essentials in Data Analysis

Human judgment. AI-accelerated. Practical technology, production-grade software, and accountable delivery.

Proud member of Samson Cree Nation • Based in Victoria, British Columbia • Available for remote roles and contract work