

Dominic Farr

Hands-On Engineering Manager

Halifax, NS | [linkedin.com/in/dominicfarr](https://www.linkedin.com/in/dominicfarr) | github.com/dominicfarr

SUMMARY

Hands-on engineering leader with 15+ years building and running small, high-trust product teams and staying active in the codebase. Built Policy Expert's insurance platform from zero to \$200M GWP, scaling the team 6→40, migrated from monolith to distributed event base services. More recently, as technical founder, shipping a B2B SaaS platform (TypeScript, React, Python, NLP) from PoC to Release. Comfortable owning delivery with scrum and kanban.

CORE SKILLS

TypeScript · JavaScript · React · Python · Java · AWS · Docker · CI/CD · Event-Driven Architecture · Microservices · Agile/Scrum/Kanban execution · Production incident response & reliability · B2B SaaS delivery · Roadmap & stakeholder collaboration · Team building & mentoring

EXPERIENCE

Independent Consulting & Advisory — Halifax, NS Mar 2026 – Present

- Organism (independent dev collective): led technical scoping and prototyping on an AI-driven automation pitch for a progressive local construction company in Halifax.
- Startup advisor and weekly mentor to fromearth.co, a founding team building in the consumer/sustainability space.
- Hands-on with agentic workflows and LLM-assisted development tooling.

Co-Founder — [Flowstate](https://flowstate.co), Halifax, NS & London, UK Dec 2023 – Nov 2025

- Owned architecture and technical delivery of a B2B SaaS platform end-to-end, from proof-of-concept through beta and early customer onboarding — sole technical lead.
- Built the full stack: TypeScript/React frontend, Python APIs, NLP services, containerised deployment, CI/CD pipelines.
- Ran sprint execution and release management directly; triaged and resolved production issues as they arose.
- Led architectural discovery with early customers, translating business workflows into product and data models.

Hands-On Engineering & Technical Advisory — Independent, Canada Aug 2020 – Dec 2023

- Delivered principal-level architectural and hands-on engineering support to founders across [fintech](https://fintech.com), [healthtech](https://healthtech.com), and [digital publishing](https://digitalpublishing.com) — greenfield builds and remediation of struggling systems.
- Mentored early-career and graduate engineers embedded in client teams, improving delivery standards and architectural consistency.

Head of Technology — [Policy Expert](https://policyexpert.com), London, UK Jul 2013 – Dec 2019

- Led architecture and teams for a regulated cloud-native insurance platform handling \$200M+ gross written premium; #1-rated conversion on price comparison sites, 73% renewal retention.
- Scaled engineering from 6 to 40 across 7 teams; drove developer retention to 3x the London average. Directed a microservices/event-driven transformation: 100+ production services, near-zero high-priority downtime across seven years.
- Managed a \$5M+ annual technology budget; cut hiring costs by \$400K/year via a blended remote/local hiring strategy.

Lead Developer — [Policy Expert](https://policyexpert.com), London, UK Jul 2010 – Jul 2013

- Lead team that designed and built the insurance platform, obtained regulatory approval; Established technology strategy and tooling roadmap, empowering business units to iterate independently and freeing hundreds of developer hours.
- Introduced automation, DevOps, CI, and established fast feedback loops for faster iterations with higher quality.

Additional Experience — Lead Developer, [Informa](https://informa.com) · Senior Developer, Riptown / [Bodog Media](https://bodogmedia.com) 2006 – 2010

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

MSc Computer Science — University of Bristol, UK · BSc Biological Sciences — UWE Bristol, UK
AWS Cloud Practitioner · Professional Scrum Master (PSM I) · Graph Developer – Associate