

## Benjamin Keen, Web Developer

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### FIND ME ONLINE

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Website: [benjaminkeen.com](http://benjaminkeen.com)  
Github: <https://github.com/benkeen>  
Twitter: [@vancouverben](https://twitter.com/vancouverben)  
LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/pub/benjamin-keen/2/376/b47>

### HIGHLIGHTS

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- Experienced web programmer; 13+ years experience with HTML, JavaScript, PHP, MySQL
- Very strong knowledge of CSS3, HTML5, JavaScript and web standards. I spend my evenings and weekends reading up on web technologies and trends.
- Wrote, manage and continue to support several Open Source projects, including [Form Tools](#), [generatedata.com](#), [Responsive Design Bookmarklet Generator](#), and [eBirdsearch.org](#).
- Currently working for CBC Music as a Web Developer where my role has been helping architect a large-scale JS framework built around requireJS.
- Over the last ten years, I've worked as a contract programmer for many high-profile clients including UBC, the Vancouver Fringe festival, Cadbury-Schweppes, Slush Puppie, 1-800-GOT-JUNK, Boston Pizza, Cackleberries Entertainment Inc., OnTrackMedia, Black Tusk Realty, BP, Exxon, the Salvation Army, Royal Pacific Realty, BC Film, the BC Athletics Society.
- For an online portfolio, links to open source projects, bird photography, music and more, see my site: [benjaminkeen.com](http://benjaminkeen.com)

### OPEN SOURCE PROJECTS

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My passion is open source and open source web development. You can find a list of all my projects on my [site](#), but these are the two largest. I did everything from the design and UI to the backend code.

#### [Form Tools](#)

Form Tools is written for sites that require any form of information gathering from their online visitors. It's an advanced form processor, storage and data access script written in PHP and MySQL, that can either create web forms or be integrated with an existing web form (any language / format). Used around the world by governments, universities, colleges and many, *many* other websites (for a tiny subset, see: <http://hello.formtools.org>)

#### [generatedata.com](#)

A PHP/MySQL driven tool with an JS-heavy front end. It lets you quickly generate large volumes of custom data in a variety of formats for use in testing software, populating databases and so forth. Popularized by Kevin Rose, the founder of digg.com, who dugg it way back in 2006. Version 3.0.0 was completed and released in 2013.

### WORK EXPERIENCE ("day jobs")

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June 2013 – Present

#### **CBC Music**, Web Developer

- Re-architected their one-page web app mobile site (Backbone, handlebars) to be built around AMD (requireJS) for on-demand loading. Documented and trained co-workers on new processes and code.
- Implemented a new build process using gruntJS for their mobile site, including: files renamed to include file hash for caching, environment-specific file

- generation, AMD file bundling, JS and CSS minification, SASS file generation and more.
- Wrote up and got sign-off from team members on a JS Style Guide.
  - Helped revise Teamcity deployment process for faster deployments.
  - Wrote and organized NUnit unit tests for mobile and desktop code.
  - Wrote and customized C# user controls for various website features; Radio 3 broadcast logs, Glenn Gould studio, Song Quest.
  - Wrote a standalone C# ajax file uploader component with progress bar (client-side code based on existing JS lib) to replace older legacy application.
  - Promoted open source!
- May 2012 – May 2013 **Central1 Credit Union, Senior Web Developer**
- Helped develop and architect a large-scale javascript framework for next wave of online banking for credit unions throughout Canada.
  - Performed regular code reviews and helped train and educate new team members.
  - Won several in-house awards for innovation and excellence.
- May 2011 – May 2012 **Self-employed, Open Source Web Developer**  
My business partner, Joseph Lo and I got a grant through BCIT to allow us to develop my open source [Form Tools](#) project into a viable business. I spent the year focusing on Form Tools development and travelling the world.
- March 2009 – May 2011 **Central1 Credit Union, Senior Web Developer**
- Helped develop online banking software for hundreds of credit unions across Canada, including Vancity, Coast Capital Savings, and Westminster Savings.
  - Primary languages: javascript, JSP, Perl
  - Developed a custom database for housing internal test accounts to simplify the way company employees accessed and managed account data.
- July 2007 – Present **Self-employed, Web Developer, Vancouver, BC (part time)**
- Working as contract web developer / programmer. Clients include:
    - UBC Vault ([ubcvault.ca](http://ubcvault.ca)): custom CSM
    - Probono Law of BC ([probononet.bc.ca](http://probononet.bc.ca)): development of a large, customized CMS
    - Exxon, BP, Vancouver Fringe, 1-800-GOT-JUNK: online registration sites (using Form Tools). Other clients: Salvation Army, BC Film, Boston Pizza
- March 2005 – July 2007 **CityXpress Corp., Web Developer, Vancouver, BC (full time)**
- Primary tools: XML, XSLT, JavaScript, JSP, CSS and HTML.
  - Mainly involved with UI re-design for clearer presentation and navigation of website content.
  - Wrote and designed a separate Flash-based image scroller widget for improved delivery of online ads (which became a spin-off Open Source project: [http://www.benjaminkeen.com/software/image\\_scroller/](http://www.benjaminkeen.com/software/image_scroller/)).
  - Helped redesign the JSP templates for quick deployment of company sites, including designing and writing a PHP-based pre-parser for converting the JSP templates into multiple languages (English, German and French).
  - Developed XSLT documents for clear, user-friendly presentation of XML data for use in online-ad taking process.
- Sep 2004 – Dec 2004 **PGI Interactive, Web Programmer / Developer - Vancouver, BC (full time)**
- Designed and wrote software to automate the process of creating online registration sites for company clients.
  - Worked with MS-SQL, Coldfusion MX and JavaScript, providing timely, robust code.

- Aided clients (incl. Cadbury-Schweppes) continue development of their own databases for accurate storage of data.
- Dec 2003 – Dec 2004 **Vancouver Natural History Society (VNHS)**, Technical lead on Website redesign team, Vancouver, BC (volunteer position, part time)
- Collaborated with other member of the design team to produce a website according to the specifications of the VNHS board.
  - Acted as advisor for all technical issues regarding the design and implementation of the CMS.
- Nov 2002 – Oct 2003 **Interactivetools.com**, Product Specialist / 2<sup>nd</sup> Level Support / Programmer, Vancouver, BC (full time)
- Helped train three new support technicians.
  - Helped develop htmlArea – a textarea replacement tool, allowing non-technical users to automatically generate HTML.

## CONTRACT WORK

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- [UBC](#) Developed custom CMS and ecommerce site for art from UBC's special collection.
- [CardioReports.net](#) Re-wrote a proof-of-concept site into a one-page Ajax with a fluid, intuitive interface. This script is for doctors, cardiologists and radiographers to generate human-readable reports for CT Scans, Holter reports and consultations. Currently being used by St. Paul's hospital in Vancouver to manage their CT Scan reports.
- Probono Law of BC Developed two sister sites using PHP, MySQL and Ajax:
- [probononet.bc.ca](#): developed a large, custom CMS for the organization to manage volunteer lawyers and legal cases. See my [Web Portfolio](#) for a full discussion of the project scope.
  - [probonomap.bc.ca](#): a Google-Maps driven site for individuals seeking free legal advice. Allows them to easily locate legal resources in their area.
- Boston Pizza, Hartford Financial Group, Cadbury-Schweppes, 1-800-GOT-JUNK, Boston Pizza  
[Salvation Army](#) Since 2005, I have worked with Joseph Lo of Encore Web Studios to build numerous registration sites for clients hosting conferences / events around the world. My role has been to develop all the backend code and UI design for the forms. See [encorewebstudios.com](#) for some screenshots.
- [Vancouver Pro Musica](#) Developed a custom CMS similar to [probononet.bc.ca](#) allowing the Salvation Army to match up volunteer lawyers to people seeking legal advice.
- Developed a website using Drupal to allow the client to manage their website without need of technical assistance.

## EDUCATION

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In addition to the education listed below, I regularly attend conferences and classes on web development and web design, including Google IO (2010-2012), JSConf, jQuery Conference, Future of Web Design, OSCON, Open Web Vancouver, Polyglot Vancouver, VanJS meetups and more.

- Jan 2004 – Aug 2004 **Langara College**, enrolled in Internet / Web Computing Software Development (ICSD) program
- May 2001 – Dec 2001 **University of Victoria**, Enrolled in Arts & Science (Computer Science) degree
- Sep 1999 – May 2001 **University of Victoria**, Bachelor of Arts (Philosophy), emphasis in logic
- Sep 1995 – May 1999 **University of Victoria**, Bachelor of Music (Composition and Theory)
- Sep 1994 – May 1995 **University of Northern British Columbia**, general courses