

# Andrew Frederick Cowie

rnc, BEng

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## Capabilities

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### Extensive Technology Background

Experience as a software developer, systems engineer, and management consultant, both in leadership roles and as a practising technologist. Extensive competence in improving organizational structures, optimizing infrastructure, and re-engineering systems.

Long experience with Linux, open source, and distributed systems. Remarkable success when troubleshooting, especially enterprise, e-commerce, and large-scale data analytics platforms. Have designed network, compute, and storage infrastructure for cloud deployments and taken them from concept through provisioning into commercial operation.

Currently building a Systems Engineering capability at a major Australian bank, balancing the needs of fast-moving development teams with policy and assurance requirements from Cyber Security by automating compliance.

### Business Process Improvement

Experienced in change management, process development, and using procedures to execute massive changes and upgrades to mission critical systems. Emphasis on successfully integrating people with processes. Track record of making sound decisions in time-critical situations.

### Consulting Experience

Have worked at levels ranging from boardroom to implementation. Extensive work in project review, change management, and improving operations practises. Solid understanding of how to work within processes to achieve goals. Skilled at financial modelling, cost control, and formulation of arguments in business plan form. Have also facilitated growth of startups and young companies, especially scaling IT systems from initial pilot projects to heavy loaded production platforms.

### Open Source

Long time open source contributor and advocate. Lead author and maintainer of several projects, and broad contributions to many others.

Considerable software development expertise writing end-user programs, web applications, and systems tools. Recent work has focused extensively on the Haskell functional programming language with Kubernetes based infrastructure, informed by a background in C, Shell, Java, and Perl.

### Accomplished Communicator

Strong presentation and communication skills. Numerous articles and papers published. Frequent speaker at conferences on topics of operations professionalism, open source development, decision making within technology contexts, and culture in the information age.

## Awards

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*Recipient of the Governor General's Bronze Medal (awarded to the student having the highest scholastic achievement in their high school graduating class) and won the Drill and Exercises prize, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year at RMC (awarded to the top officer cadet in his or her class). Earned a distinction on the Officer Professional Development and Field Operations exams. Awarded membership in the Canadian Aeronautics and Space Institute and the Australian Computer Society.*

## Interests

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*Enjoy distance running, trekking, and for a time studied Aikido. Read extensively on science, business, and international relations. Now pursuing research in Systems Engineering looking at applying probability and simulation to better manage complex organizations. Young family but still an avid connoisseur of cappuccino, martinis, and world class DJs.*

## Education

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### Royal Military College

Bachelor of Engineering  
(Engineering Physics)  
Kingston, 1991-1995

### Shad Valley

Science, Technology & Business  
Ottawa, summer 1990

## Career

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### Commonwealth Bank

#### Engineering Manager

- Systems Engineering
- Cyber Security
- Analytics & Information

Sydney, 2015-

### Anchor Systems

#### Head of Engineering

- Private Cloud Infrastructure

Sydney, 2013-2015

### Operational Dynamics

#### Consulting Engineer

- Corporate Advisory
- IT Operations Management
- Software Development & Research

Sydney, 2003-2013

### GNOME Desktop

#### Project Lead – Java Bindings

Worldwide, 2006-2011

### Upoc, Inc

#### Director of Operations

New York, 2000-2002

### ShadNet Online Community

#### Co-Founder & Technical Architect

Toronto, 1996-1999

### Canadian Military

#### Infantry Officer

Canada and Europe, 1991-2000

### Digital Equipment Corporation

#### Systems Administrator

Toronto, summer 1990

## Directorships

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### Canadian Centre for Creative Technology

#### Member, Board of Directors

1996-2006

### Linux Australia, Inc

#### Secretary, Managing Committee

2003-2005

### Australian Unix, Linux, and Open Source Professionals' Organization

#### Member, Board of Directors

2003-2004