

Qendrim Beka

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SUMMARY

Founder and full-stack engineer who ships products people actually use. Built and shipped Philo to iOS solo, growing it to 65K+ users and \$34K ARR with zero funding. Currently leading engineering on Solus, an AI finance assistant with 2,200+ waitlist members launching April 2026. Dry Lab Research and Software Developer for UAlberta's iGEM Paris 2026 team. Fluent in React, TypeScript, Python, and AI/ML, comfortable owning the full stack from design to deployment and pushing maintainable and scalable products.

EXPERIENCE

Founder | Philo - A Thinking Journal | October 2025 - Present

- Sole engineer on a consumer iOS app (Expo/React Native/TypeScript) that scaled to 65,000+ lifetime users and \$34K ARR. Designed, built, and shipped end-to-end with zero external funding.
- Hit 58% D7 retention (2–3× consumer app benchmark) and 18,000+ MAU through iterative product loops and zero paid acquisition.
- Architected a semantic vector recommendation engine over a 20K+ quote corpus — sub-500ms personalized retrieval across 6,000+ daily prompts, zero third-party ML APIs.
- Selected for and declined two acquisition conversations; chose to retain full ownership and continue independent growth.

Data Analyst Intern | Government of Alberta, Ministry of Assisted Living and Social Services | May 2025 - August 2025

- Led province-wide data collection across 84 partner organizations, producing the most comprehensive housing unit inventory (90,000+ units) in the ministry's recent history.
- Engineered Python automation pipelines that eliminated a class of manual processing errors entirely and cut team workflow time by 120%, adopted across the unit.
- Delivered executive-facing dashboards (PowerBI, Plotly/Dash) that directly informed policy research decisions at the ministry level.

PROJECTS

Solus - AI Finance Assistant | solus.live

- Led a 4-person founding team as Lead Engineer and CEO, delegated across product, design, and growth while shipping 50,000+ lines of production code, leveraging Claude Code and Cursor to deliver at a velocity typically requiring a team 3x the size; 0% crash rate across 50 beta testers.
- Engineered a conversational AI executing complex financial workflows (budgeting, receipt scanning, expense splitting, settlements) through natural language with sub-200ms response times, 97%+ OCR accuracy, and a custom data visualization suite.
- Grew to 2,200+ waitlist members ahead of April 2026 launch with zero paid acquisition.

VR Alzheimer's Detection | github.com/NeuroNavScore/hackathon2024

- Won first place (\$4,000) at Canada's Largest Neuroscience Hackathon.
- Worked directly with an industry partner on a real clinical brief and delivered a solution flagged for post-competition research follow-up.
- Engineered a real-time EEG + VR pipeline processing 40,000 datapoints/sec to classify 150+ cognitive navigation signatures. 90% early Alzheimer's detection accuracy across a 2,000-person dataset.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Computing Science, Minor in Philosophy | University of Alberta | Class of '28

- Relevant coursework: Software Engineering, Algorithms, Databases, Web Applications, Reinforcement Learning, Search & Planning in AI.
- Selected from 250+ applicants for UAlberta's iGEM 2026 team, competing internationally in Paris representing Canada in synthetic biology.

INVOLVEMENT

Research & Development Volunteer | Network for Applied Technology

- Research on emergent coordination in multi-agent LLM systems using ABM; findings directly shaped internal research roadmap.
- Designed and deployed matchmaking infrastructure for 1,500+ participants and reduced manual team formation overhead to near-zero at scale.
- Core contributor to nat-ETH, a live ecosystem intelligence platform tracking funding flows across incubators, funders, and service providers, used by real stakeholders for capital allocation decisions.

SKILLS

Languages: Python, TypeScript/JavaScript, Java, C, C#, SQL, Bash.

Development: React, Next.js, Node.js, Expo/React Native, RESTful/GraphQL APIs, WebSockets, Microservices, Cloud (AWS, Firebase, Supabase), CI/CD, Docker, System Design, Object-Oriented Programming (OOP), Agile/Scrum, Unit Testing, Vercel, Railway.

AI/ML: PyTorch, TensorFlow, Scikit-learn, Transformers, OpenCV, vector embeddings, semantic search, RAG pipelines, Large Language Model (LLM) API Integration, Prompt Engineering.

AI Tooling: Claude Code, Cursor, GitHub Copilot, Windsurf; Figma, v0 by Vercel, Lovable, Framer.