Meet Andrew Kennedy!

Integration Analyst, League Data LTD

Born and raised in Nova Scotia, Andrew couldn't imagine working anywhere else then by the ocean. Nova Scotia's growing technology sector allows Andrew to build the career he wants, and where he wants. Andrew is now an Integration Analyst at local information technology company, League Data Ltd..

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I went to Kings Edgehill School in Windsor and looking back at my hobbies, I was a stereotypical high school student - I played rugby, hockey, and computer games.

I remember when I was first exposed to the internet, my friends and I were playing text-based games and we had to dial into the server (only one person could dial in at a time), so we would race each other to be the first on the server every morning – it got very competitive. My high school embraced technology and I gained some basic digital knowledge while there, like how data is based and structured in a database. I remember, I actually took part in a weekend workshop that really sparked my interest in computers and tech

When I went on to Acadia University, I initially took computer science but after the first semester, I switched to economics where I found my real interest. I loved that time in my life and my time at university. In economics you can do a lot with data and tech integrates more and more every day with, well, everything. My path towards working in technology is not something I planned. It happened because of the opportunities that continued to open as I progressed through my career.

"To work in tech, you don't need to move to Toronto or a big city - you can stay home, here in Nova Scotia"

It's so important to follow your passion and do what you really love. When I started to work at League Data, I was in a consulting position which I liked but I really saw myself doing more. I

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wanted to enhance my knowledge of what digital is and understand the value of digital transformation, so I could see where I fit. My next career step was into an integration analyst role which is what I do today. My responsibilities involve connecting the different systems and points of data so we can create engaging experiences for credit union members. It's what really interests me. I love data – exploring how to work with data, how to gather it, and how to leverage targeted data. It's exciting for me.

I don't think anybody can deny that digital technology is now a foundation that holds up the business world and I'm proud to be part of the tech sector. At League Data, I'm able to use my mind in a way that really challenges me and allows me to use my problem-solving skills.

We need to predict market trends to maintain successful credit or debit card launches, make sure cards transactions are processed accurately and securely as well as understanding how to use the different points of data to get a complete view of our members. Currently, my job is to connect our different systems to each other and to build connections using a middle layer called an API. APIs allow us to connect new systems to each other easier, increasing the speed that we can launch new services.

There are three things that I really love about my work – understanding data, daily challenges, and staying on the top of trends. However, the people I work with make all the difference – the people at League Data are awesome.

> *"It's so important to follow your passion and do what you really love."*

We are a great family that works together while staying competitive. Everyone at League Data works hard to get the job done.

To work in tech, you don't need to move to Toronto or a big city - you can stay home, here in Nova Scotia. If you are looking to enter the rapidly changing IT world, I would recommend taking some Java courses and gaining as much development skills as you can, even if it's not your major.

About League Data
League Data is the Chief Information Officer (CIO) of the Atlantic Credit Union System. The company provides information technology services and support to the 46 credit unions across Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Prince Edward Island. League Data's focus is to provide fully integrated technology solutions that credit unions require to deliver a member experience that enables growth while reducing administration and operational costs.

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