Drew Thompson

Senior Software Engineer · Product & AI Engineering

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SUMMARY

Senior Software Engineer with 10 years in fintech and enterprise software, now focused on making AI agents productive end to end. Builds the workflows, tools and context agents need to take work from ticket to verified result without hand-holding — including frontend verification tooling so agents deliver proof of completion, not just a diff. Optimizes for system understanding in codebases where most code is AI-written: conventions, docs and feedback loops that keep people and agents oriented as the product moves fast. Pairs this with full-stack product delivery at Wealthsimple, leading web, mobile and backend launches that grew new lines of business 2–13x.

EXPERIENCE

Wealthsimple — Senior Software Engineer
Toronto · 2021 – Present

Options team, then Margin team (mid-2026)

AI ENGINEERING

- **Margin Semantics Core:** Created the knowledge base at the core of the team's agent "software factory": facts about how the margin product works, a domain glossary, invariants that must never break, system boundaries, and "lanes" (e.g. frontend, balance calculations) that route each agent to the context its task needs. Ships as a Claude Code plugin today; designed so every agent in the factory reads and updates it across discovery, implementation, review and post-merge. A nightly drift check flags facts that code changes have made stale.
- **Frontend E2E Verification:** Built an agent skill that launches the iOS simulator or Playwright, steps through flows with the existing e2e test frameworks, and captures before-and-after screenshots, so agents hand back proof of completion instead of an unverified diff.

PRODUCT DELIVERY

- **Self-serve margin upgrades (2026):** Led the project from tech brief to rollout, replacing a manual support process with in-app margin upgrades for corporate and joint accounts on web and mobile. Corporate upgrades rose 13x (~62/month by hand to 831 in October), joint upgrades ~10x, and corporate margin accounts grew 2.3x in 10 weeks (1,517 to 3,566).
- Solved the two-owner problem for joint accounts: per-owner risk disclosures, a resumable "waiting on co-owner" state and a 30-day retry cooldown. Found and backfilled 729 of 2,757 corporate margin accounts that never received a borrowing limit.
- **Options for corporate accounts (2026):** Opened options trading to business accounts across permissions, web and mobile order flow, and support tooling. Drove $398M CAD in premium across ~82K orders in 8 months, with monthly premium up 9.4x ($10.9M to $102.5M); business clients trade 3.5x more per order than other accounts.
- **Options in registered and cash accounts (2025–26):** Wrote the cash-secured puts tech brief and led the launch, then built real-time checks that confirm a client can cover a trade before it's placed, letting TFSA, RRSP and cash accounts trade covered calls and puts. Added $36M in net-new premium from ~6,700 clients and a 2.5x lift in options enablements.
- **Futures auto-close (2026):** Helped build a compliance-approved, human-in-the-loop workflow (Kotlin, Spring Boot, Temporal) that closes expiring futures positions. Drove the design pivot with compliance and trading; it saves traders 30–60+ minutes per run and now also powers margin-call auto-liquidation.

- Mentored and onboarded a new engineer onto the Margin team; regular code reviewer and on-call responder, including fixing duplicate exercise fees for 3,344 clients.

2021–2024 HIGHLIGHTS

- Helped launch Wealthsimple's first private credit offering, reaching $10M in net deposits in 60 days; built approval tools for investment agents.
- Cut order time-to-completion by 50%+ by rebuilding the order flow on reusable React components across security types.
- Reduced frontend errors 25% month over month by leading a cross-platform error-handling overhaul with Sentry and Datadog.
- Cut registered traders' task time by 80% by automating order posting and auditing in new internal UIs.

Royal Bank of Canada — Senior Developer

Toronto · 2020 – 2021

- Rebuilt and launched KYC features in the RBC mobile app, with strong unit, integration and CI/CD coverage.
- Started a tech-debt initiative that removed thousands of lines of code and raised debt-ticket resolution 35% year over year.
- Mentored junior developers and co-op students.

Normative — Senior Frontend Developer

Toronto · 2019 – 2020

- Led an Angular component library that unified 3 international teams for a major telecom client; cut its install time 73% with code-generation scripts.
- Planned sprints and product roadmaps for client projects.

Earlier roles — Frontend Developer

2016 – 2019

- Entertainment One (Secret Location), NewAge Products, Benji, Audiobooks.com, Ur-Channel Broadcasting: Angular and React apps, component libraries, real-time WebSocket UIs and accessible (WCAG) web interfaces.

SKILLS

AI engineering	Claude Code (skills, plugins), Cursor, MCP, context engineering and agent knowledge bases, agent verification (Playwright, iOS simulator), LLM integration
Frontend	TypeScript, React, React Native, Apollo GraphQL, component libraries, web performance
Backend & data	Ruby on Rails, Kotlin, Spring Boot, Node.js, federated GraphQL, Temporal, Kafka, PostgreSQL, Snowflake/SQL
Delivery	Tech briefs and design docs, LaunchDarkly staged rollouts, Preset and Mixpanel dashboards, Sentry, Datadog

EDUCATION

Juno College of Technology — Web Development

Toronto · 2016