

Junior Developer: Community Tech Lab 2026

Location: Queenstown Lakes District | **Engagement:** Sole trader contract with Startup Queenstown-Lakes | **Dates:** Oct-Dec 2026 (core build)

About the programme

Community Tech Lab pairs early-career and experienced developers to build three small, high-impact digital tools for local community organisations. It is funded by the QLDC Economic Diversification Fund and delivered by a partnership of six local organisations. You will work in a team of 2–3, supported by senior mentors and an advisory panel.

Who we're looking for

Someone curious about technology and AI, keen to learn by doing, and excited to ship something real that helps a local not-for-profit. You don't need a CS degree or a polished GitHub. You need curiosity, follow-through, and a willingness to ask questions.

What you'll do

- Contribute to one of three small-team builds, from discovery through handover
- Pair with senior mentors and use AI coding tools as part of everyday workflow
- Participate in sprint ceremonies, code reviews, and the closing FLINT Showcase Hui
- Help document and hand over the tool to the community organisation

What we're hoping you bring

- Genuine curiosity about AI and modern development tools (Claude Code, Cursor, Copilot, or similar — happy to introduce you)
- Willingness to learn in public and take feedback well
- Reliability, showing up to your sprints and commitments
- Any exposure to programming, web, design, or tech more broadly is a plus, but **not mandatory**. We care more about attitude and aptitude than prior experience.

What you'll get

- Mentorship from experienced local developers and tech leaders
- Real portfolio work with a named community organisation
- A paid contract (sole trader) with Startup Queenstown Lakes
- Pathway into the Queenstown Lakes tech community via FLINT, QCC, and Technology Queenstown networks
- Potential to contract directly with the community org beyond the programme