

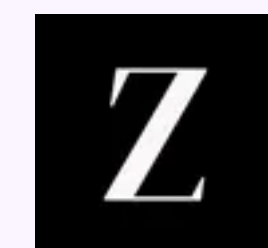
Beyond Microblogging: AT Protocol for Building Unique Social Apps

Fedicon, Vancouver, August 2025



Boris Mann

- 20+ years ago, helped build out the Drupal community, early BarCamp unconferences, Northern Voice blogging here in Vancouver
- My last startup, Fission, protocols over platforms: UCAN, WNFS, IPVMM
- Now: AT Community Fund, Ink & Switch, plus CoSocial, Z-Space, DWebYVR
 - Website <https://bmannconsulting.com>
 - Mastodon @boris@cosocial.ca
 - ATProto @bmann.ca
 - Bridgy Fed makes both accounts available on your choice of network!



I guess we're doing this again:
making the Internet slightly better!

ATProto Community Fund

- Formed in order to host ATmosphereConf
- Fiscal hosting by Raft Foundation, 501c3 charitable foundation in the US
- atprotocol.dev/community-fund/
- opencollective.com/atprotocoldev
- Say hi to Gustopher Goosetopher, this presentation contains no butterflies!



Let's have fun in the ATmosphere

- My goal with this talk is to tell you about the **ATmosphere** — the connected accounts, data, and apps that are all running on the AT Protocol
- One of the things that lets people play is that every account has portable, user owned storage included in a Personal Data Server (PDS)
- With accounts separate from apps, people can make apps just for themselves or small groups of people and the barrier to entry is very low.
- There isn't a server or an app to go away: data is written to a users' account

Bluesky Microblogging

- The Bluesky team has defined a microblog service
- This definition is described by a Lexicon (a data type or a schema)
 - 300 graphemes
 - Rich Text (not in bsky client)
 - Out-of-band hashtags (not in bsky client)
 - Quotes, Reposts, Images, Videos
- Also defined profiles and follows and likes and blocks - all of these are configurable Lexicons which you can use or not, all data stored in user accounts
- The same account can login in everywhere

Clients! (microblogging)

- Ouranos is made in Vancouver by @pouriade.com
- Rich Text!
- Out-of-band tags!

Cancel

Send

I'm giving a talk at [FediCon](#) in Vancouver tomorrow. You can [RSVP on Smoke Signal](#).

Yes, I am staging a post so I can put it in my talk! It's called Beyond Microblogging and I'm going to mostly talk about the joy of the ATmosphere.

#Vancouver X

#FediCon X

#fediverse X

[🌐 Everyone can reply](#)

😊

🖼️

#

🛡️

🔗

🌐 (Auto)

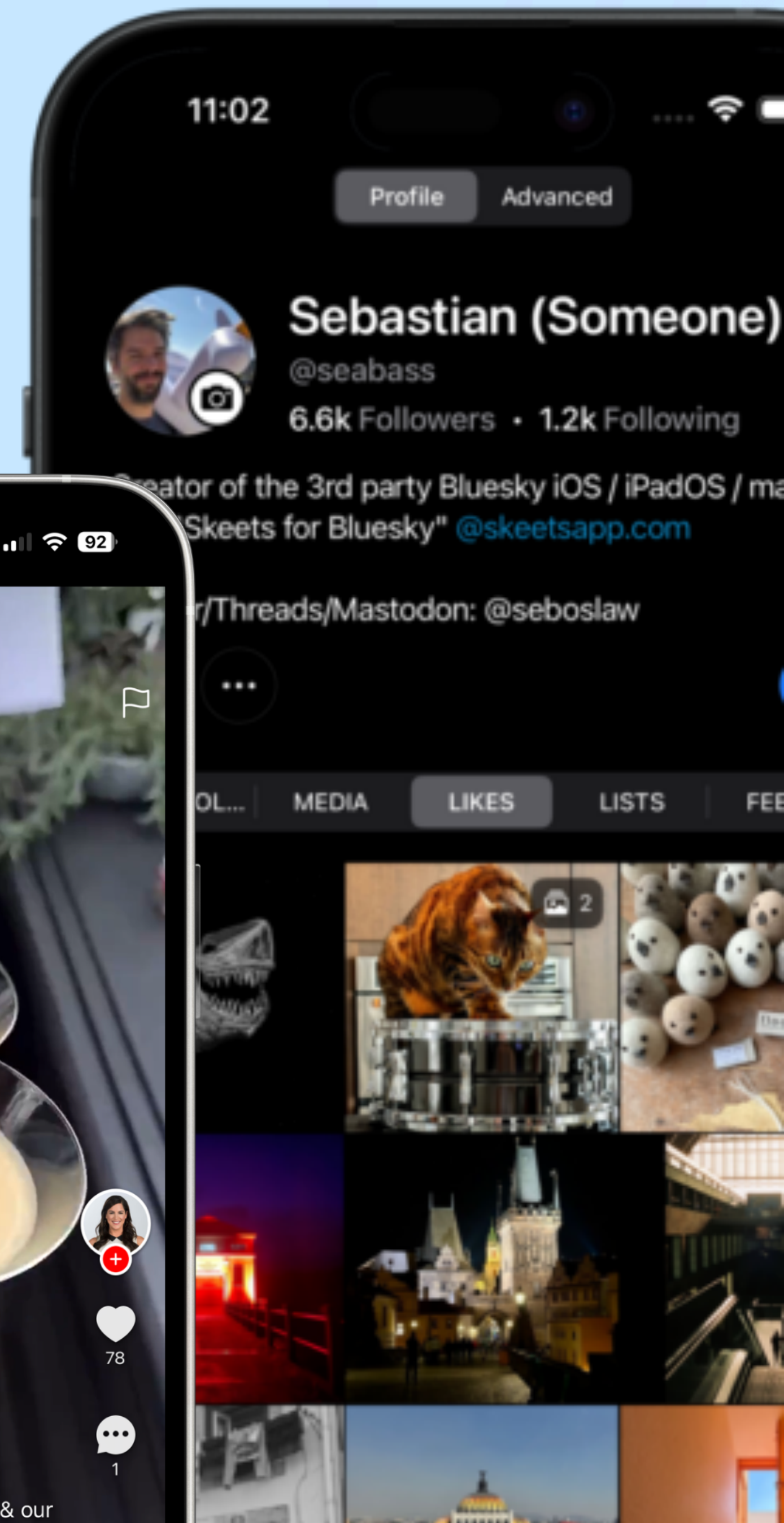
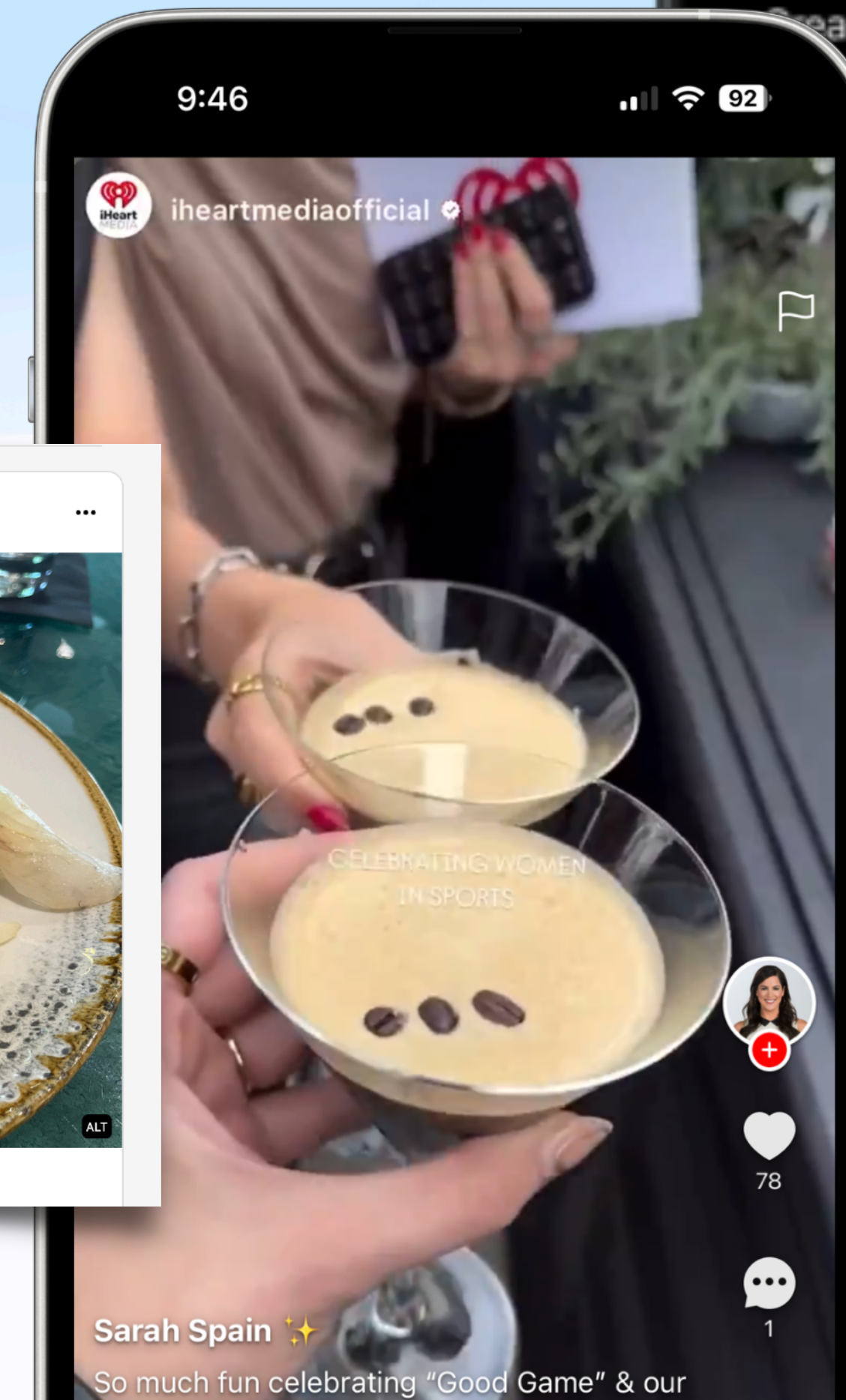
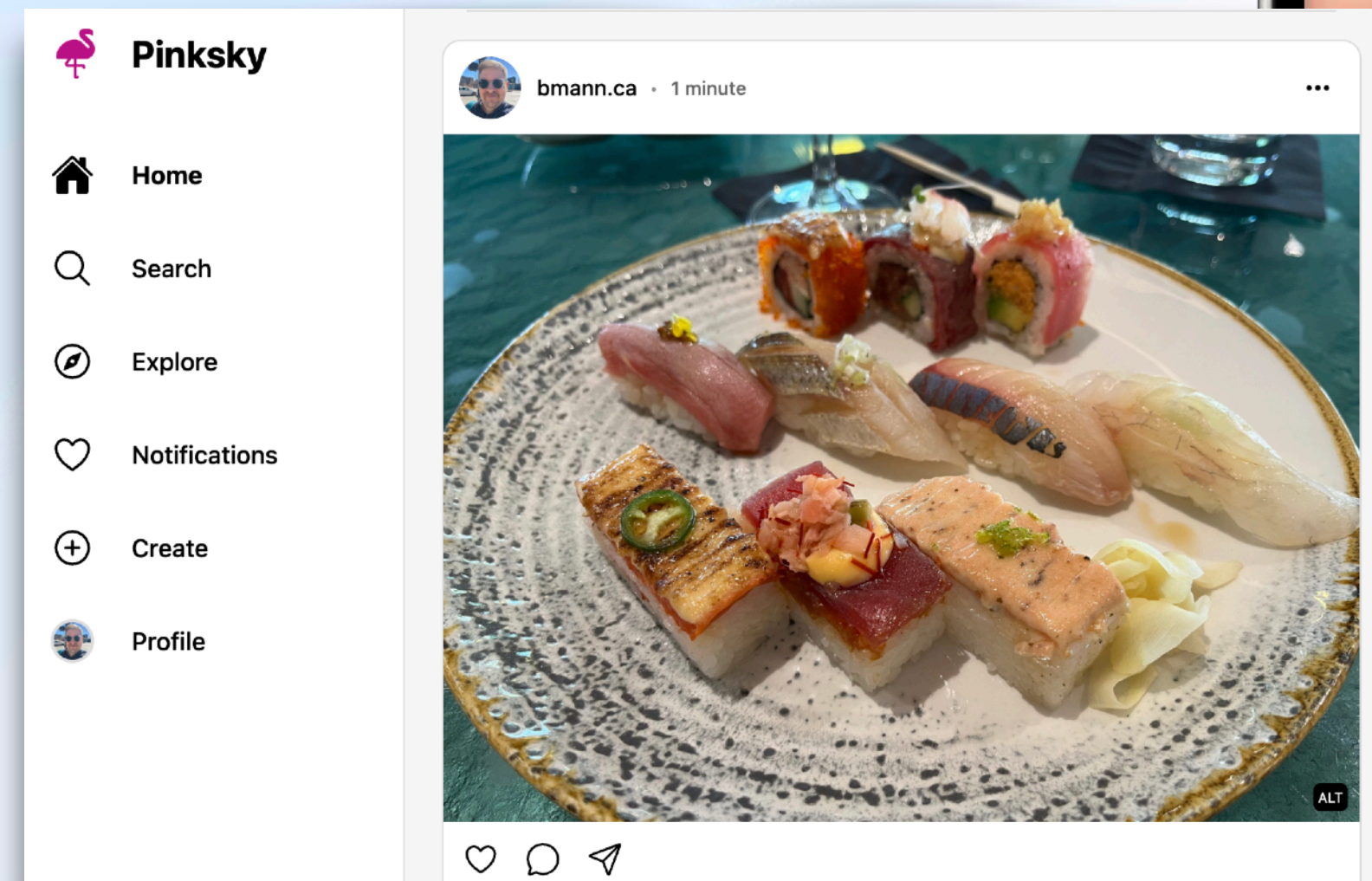
🔄

useouranos.app

Clients! IG / TikTok Flavoured!

- Same microblogging Lexicon
- Apps add extras, like gallery preferences

- flashes.blue
- skylight.social
- pinksky.app

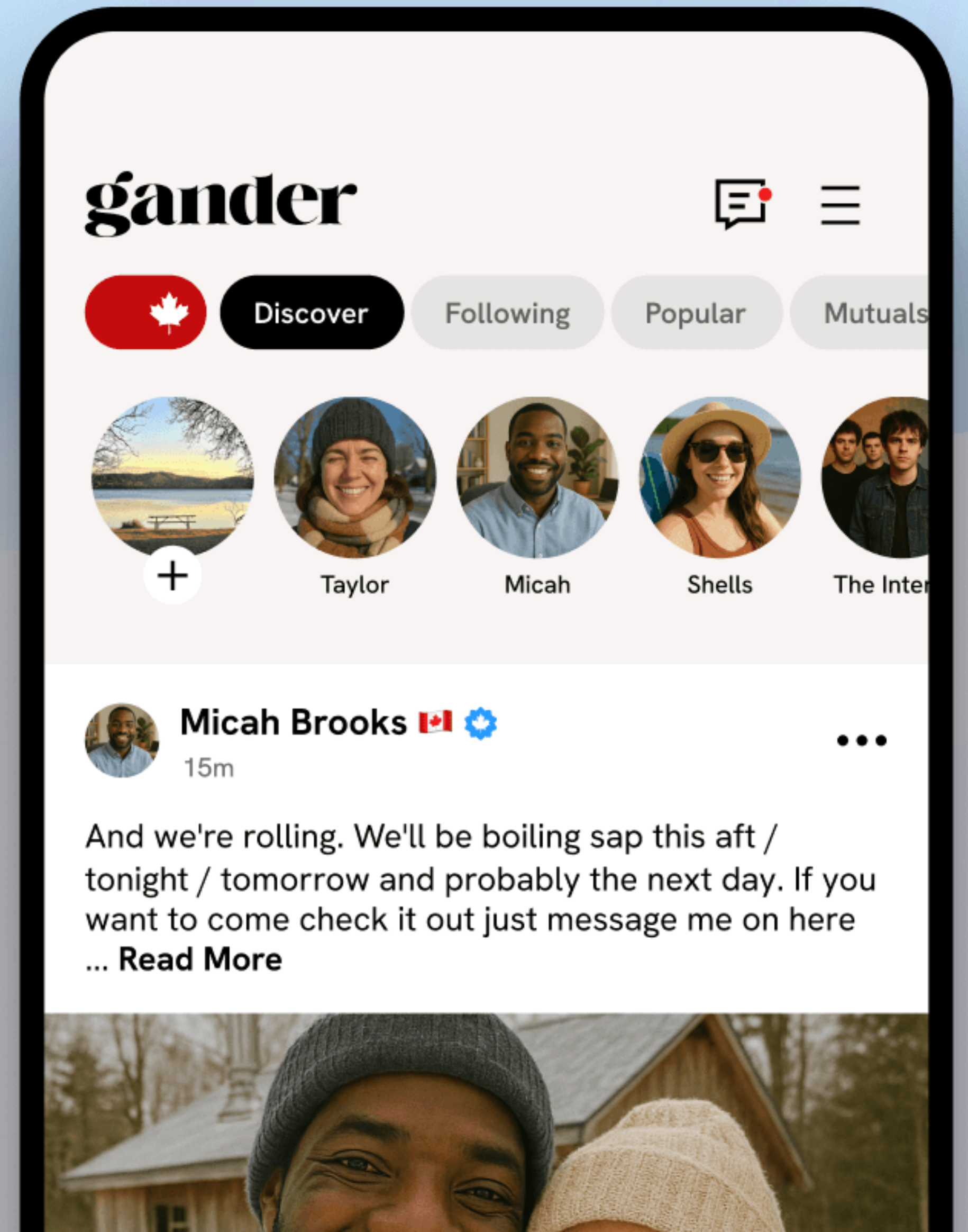


Clients! Canadian Flavoured!

- Gander (Not launched yet!)
- gandersocial.ca
- More IG
- Data in Canada
- (Still microblog!)



gander





Beyond Microblogging!

Toilets!

Flushes



```
text: "is demoing how to flush"

$type: "im.flushing.right.now"

emoji: "🚽"

createdAt: "2025-08-01T07:36:42.787Z"

View raw record response
```

Flushes

[Feed](#) [Stats](#) [Shortcut](#) [About](#) [Profile](#)

Search handle

System Lights

Logout

The Decentralized Toilet Network of Planet Earth & Simulation 12B

Share a "flush" whenever you're in the bathroom.

Like the app? Donate to [our toilet paper fund](#).

Made by [@dame.is](#) and [@atpota.to](#)

Update your status

Recent flushes

Click on a username to see their flushes profile.

[@bmann.ca](#) is demoing how to flush

just now

[@xan.lol](#) is flushing

2h ago

[@dame.is](#) flushing


3h ago



Refresh


[flushes.app](#)

Recipes!



- Recipe Exchange
 - Based on schema.org recipes
 - Very large Lexicon
 - Images of course!

recipe  exchange



@bmann.ca


 5  0

[View on Bluesky](#)


[Edit profile](#)

About


Recipes

 Created


5

 Liked

0

 Collections

0

 Comments

0

Recipes



Schug Hot Sauce

 @bmann.ca



Chick Peas with Garlic Mousseline

 @bmann.ca



Aloo pie

 @bmann.ca



Green seasoning

 @bmann.ca

[+ Add Recipe](#)


recipe.exchange

Social Coding!

- Tangled tangled.sh
- Have their own follow graph
- Plus specialized "knot" (git repo hosting) and "spindle" (CI runner) servers

tangled^{alpha}

🔗 discord # irc <> source



@bmann.ca

👤 9 followers · 7 following

✎ edit

PINNED REPOS view all >

✎ edit

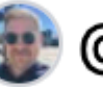
at-advent

● Rust

tangled^{alpha}



🔗 discord # irc <> source


+



@bmann.ca



Timeline


 @isabelroses.com followed  @thecoded.prof 4 minutes ago



@thecoded.prof

👤 1 followers · 5 following


 @isabelroses.com followed  @pyrox.dev 4 minutes ago



@pyrox.dev

Chronic Nix user, Rust/Python dev, and cybersecurity nerd.

👤 5 followers · 0 following

 @oppi.li starred @tsiry-sandratraina.com/vmlinux-builder 32 minutes ago

@tsiry-sandratraina.com/vmlinux-builder

Simple script and config to build custom Linux kernels for Firecracker MicroVMs

★ 2

Events!

- Smoke Signal powers events & RSVPs
- Also includes the community lexicon for venues / geo locations
- Event infrastructure:
 - Different clients on top, from Luma to Meetup and more
- Regional instances in progress

 Smoke Signal [About](#) [Help](#) [Blog](#) [Add Event](#) [@bmann.ca](#) [Log out](#)

Beyond Microblogging: AT Protocol for Building Unique Social Apps, presentation at FediCon

[@bmann.ca](#) [Manage](#)

Scheduled 1 August 2025 02:30 pm PDT 1 August 2025 03:00 pm PDT In Person

UBC Robson Square, 800 Robson Square, Vancouver, BC, CA [Apple Maps](#) [Google Maps](#)

[Fedicon Website](#)

[@bmann.ca](#) [Bluesky](#) [Settings](#) [Import Records](#)

[Recent Activity](#) [Events](#)

Beyond Microblogging: AT Protocol for Building Unique Social Apps, presentation at FediCon

Scheduled

1 August 2025 02:30 pm PDT

[@bmann.ca](#)

In Person

★ 1 Going

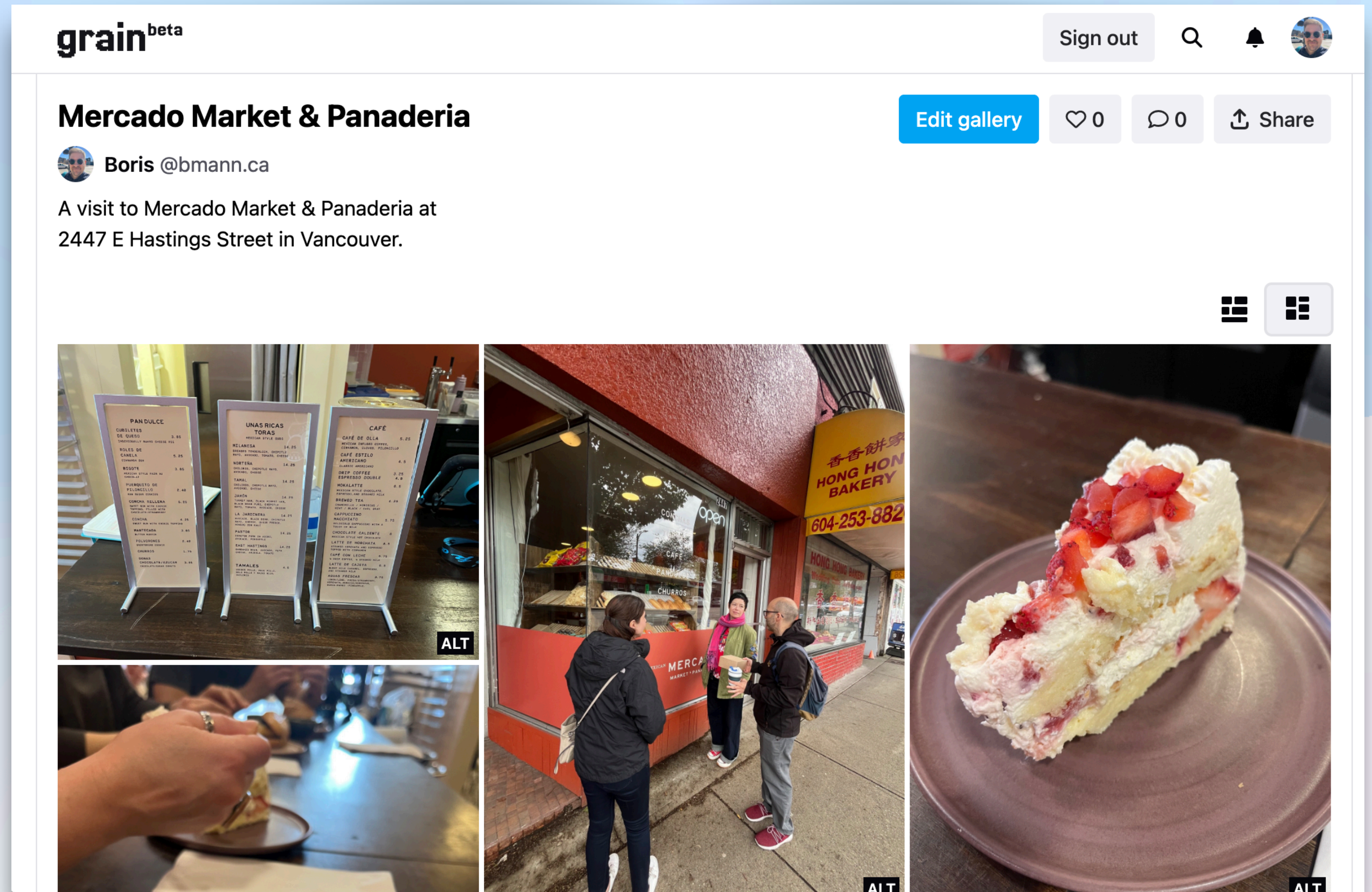
[address with the event](#)

[RSVP](#)

smokesignal.events

Photos!

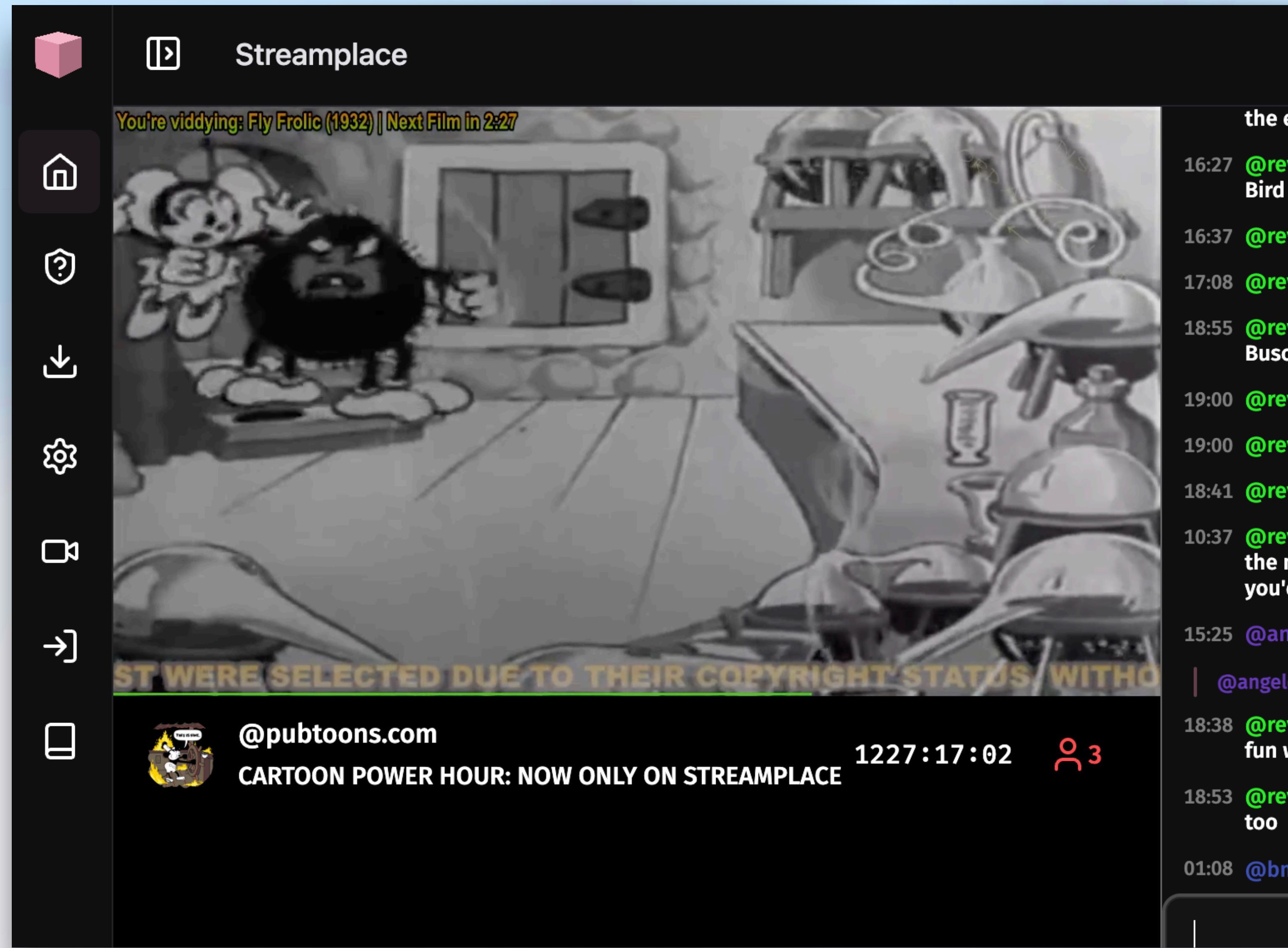
- Grain has its own Lexicon
- This is a gallery →
- All these images (Bluesky posts, your avatar, header image) are stored in your PDS as content-addressed blobs



grain.social

Video Streaming!

- Streamplace is a decentralized streaming platform (think Twitch)
- Because it's open source, it's also going to get plugged into Skylight and some of the other video apps
- stream.place



Blogs!

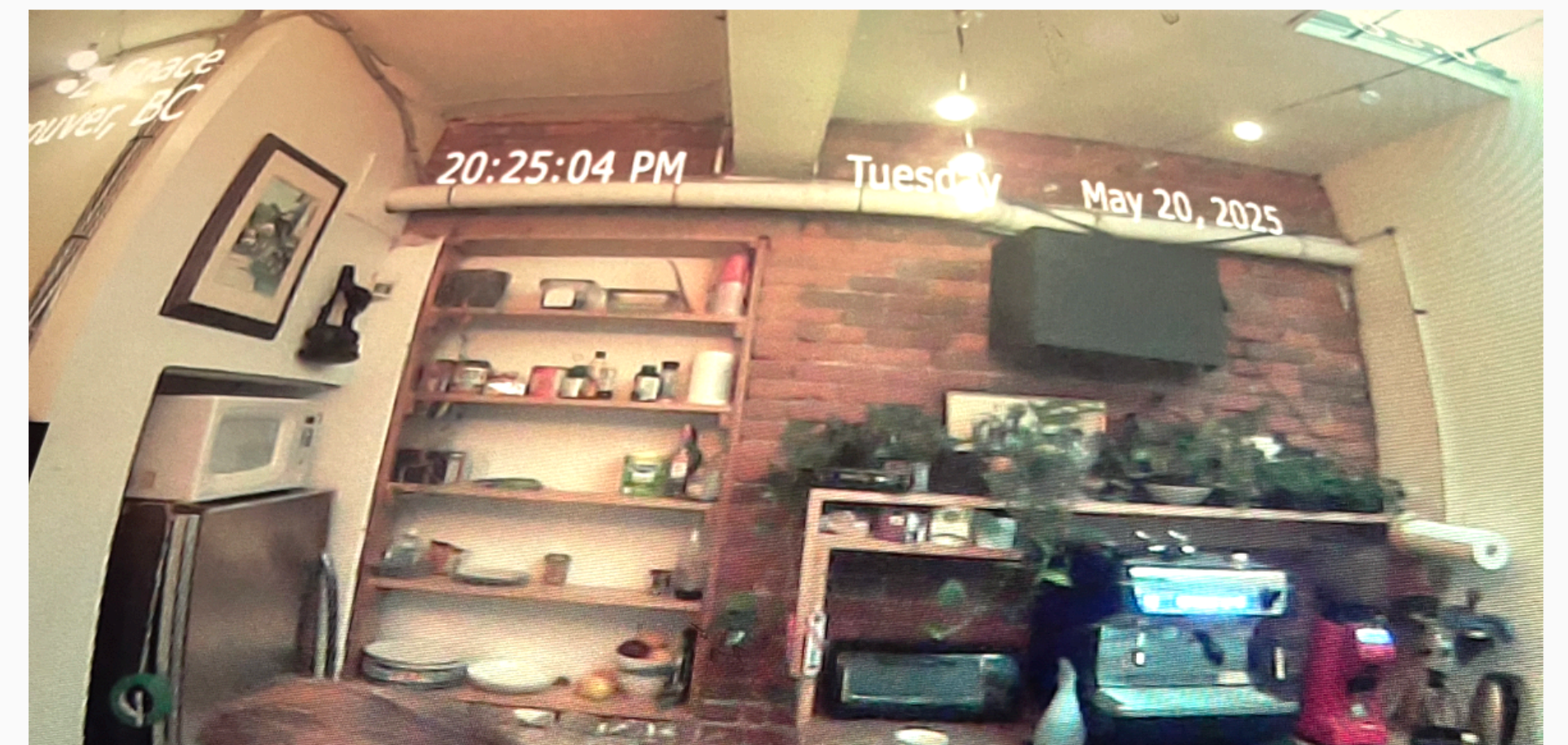
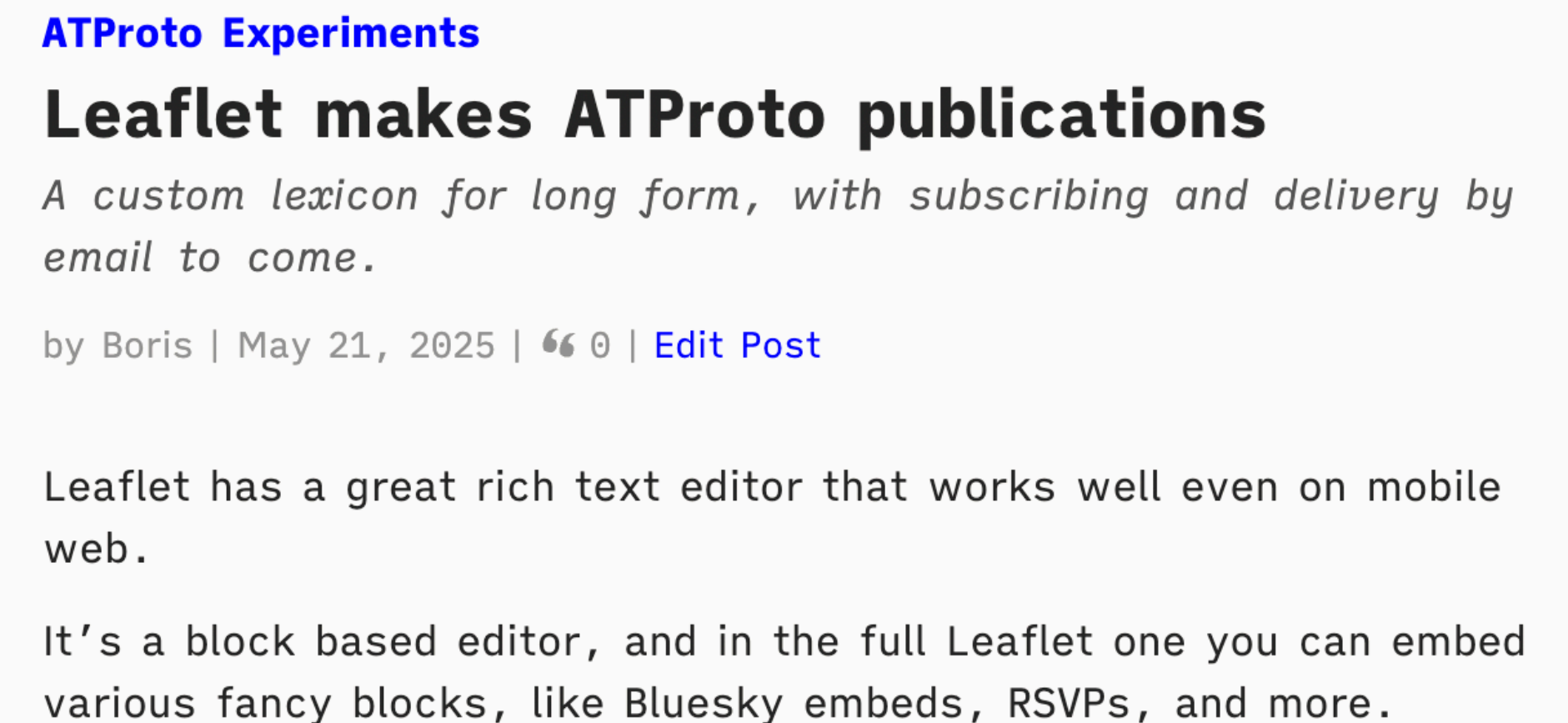
- White Wind “whtwnd” was the first custom Lexicon, made by a Japanese developer
- It’s a longform post type using Markdown

whtwnd.com

The image shows two overlapping screenshots of the WhiteWind web application. The top screenshot is the editor interface, featuring a header with the 'WhiteWind' logo, a search bar containing 'FediCon example', and a yellow 'Author only' button. A left sidebar contains icons for editing, previewing, inserting images, saving, uploading, and settings. The main text area shows a rich text editor with a toolbar and the text: 'I am writing a blog for [Fedicon](https://fedicon.ca). WhiteWind is a long form blog'. The bottom screenshot shows a published blog post. The header includes the 'WhiteWind' logo, a user profile picture, and a menu icon. The post title is 'Migrating PDS Account with `goat`', followed by the author '@bnewbold.net' and the timestamp '10/2/2024, 10:35:20 AM'. The post content begins with: 'Account migration is an important feature of atproto, and has been possible in the live network since February of this year, but is still a bit scary and developer-oriented. As part of documenting the migration process, I recently implemented basic account migration in the `goat` CLI tool for atproto. This blog post walks

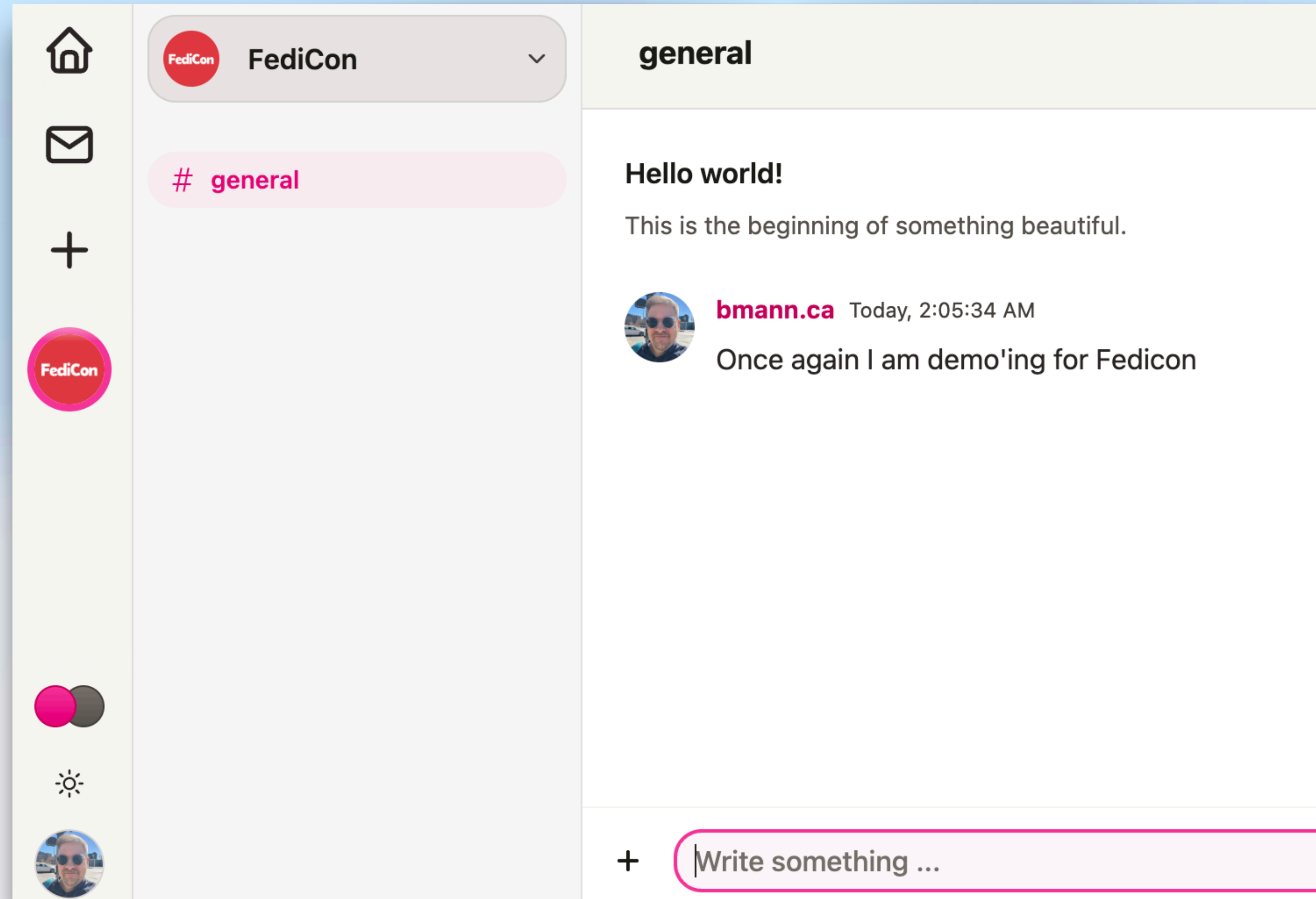
Publications!

- Leaflet is another long form Lexicon
- Block based editor
- Can make publications - post to a custom feed
- Working on email aka "Substack"
- leaflet.pub



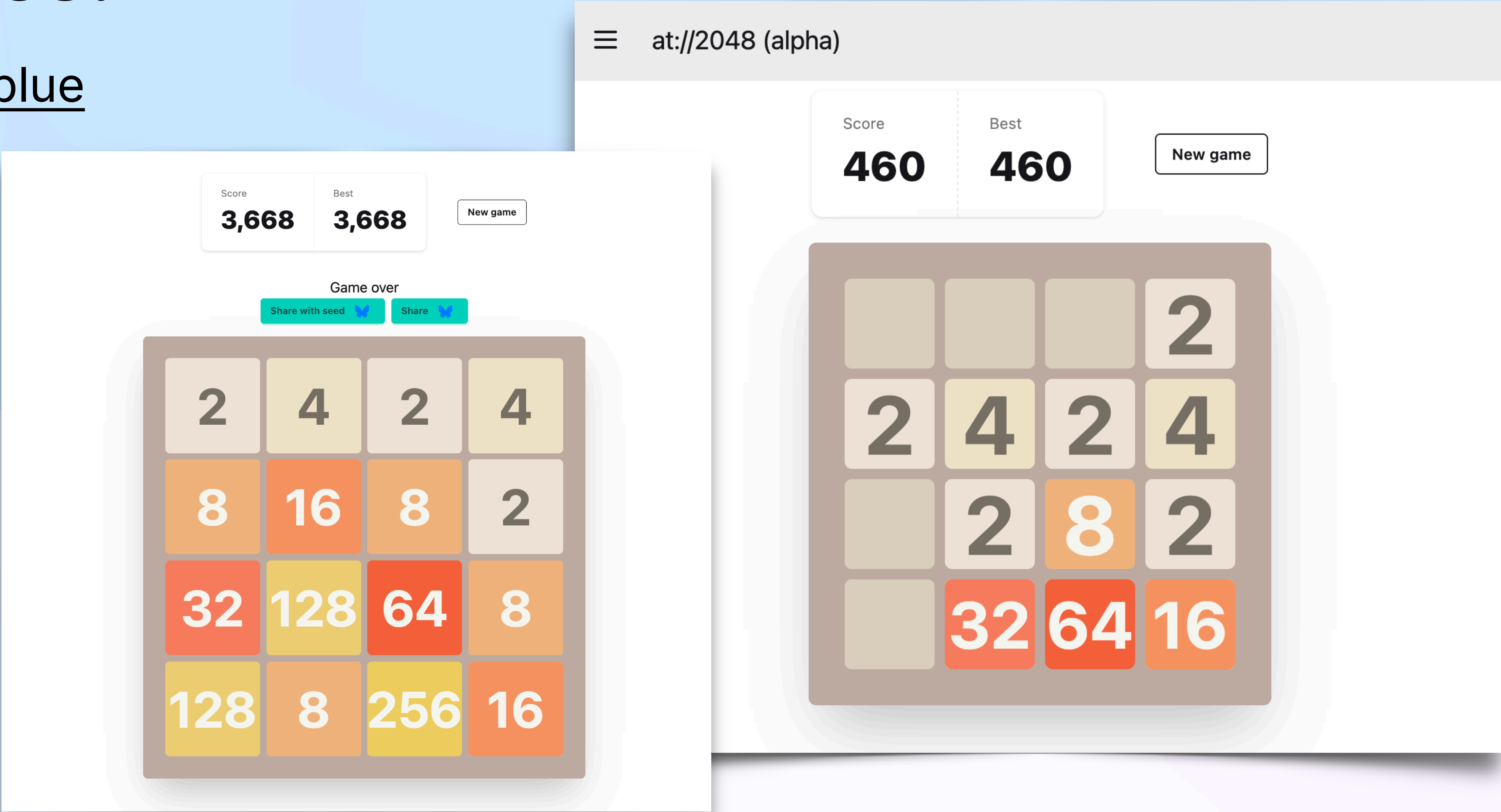
Chat!

- Roomy is building towards a Discord like experience
- Plans to sync/import from Discord
- Local first, p2p layer that's off protocol
- roomy.space



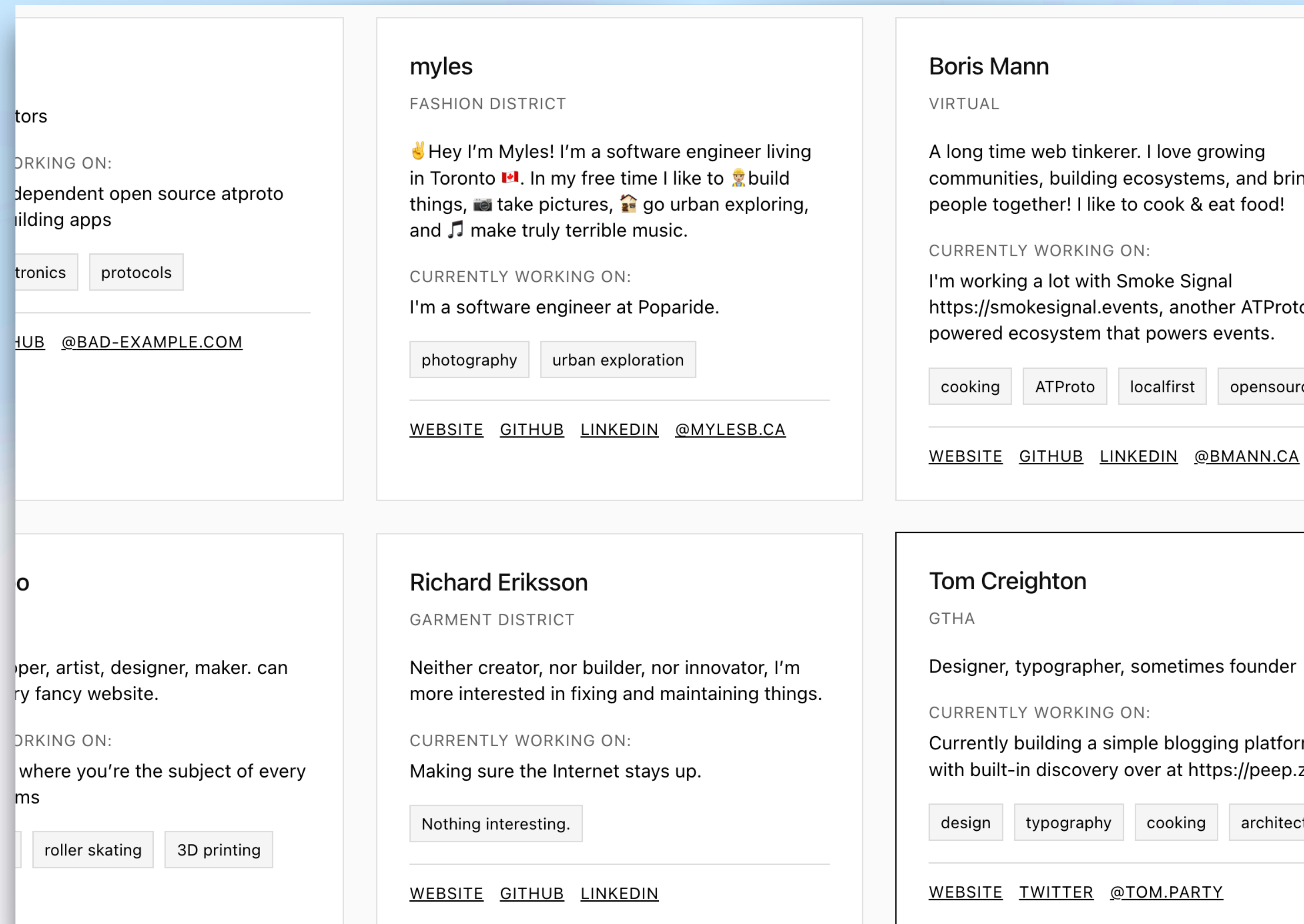
Games!

- 2048.blue



Profile Directories!

- Discover Toronto is a very custom profile type
- Login, fill out your profile
- A kind of “single serving app”, that uses ATProto as a backend-as-a-service
- Could make your own for your region or community, but with different Lexicon
- discover.toronto.inc



(Not Social) Apps

- ATProto currently doesn't have any private data
- This restricts the type of apps you can build to user owned data that you're OK with being out in public
- Private data has a few proof-of-concepts, there will be some more discussion at the IETF this November in Montreal
- Private data opens up things that people want for social apps (private accounts, groups, etc.) — but also many other apps that aren't really social
- Any apps can be built on top of the base account system (identity + PDS data hosting) so that all apps have user owned data

Feeds & Labelers

- Feeds: curate custom sets of posts (Use graze.social to build no-code ones)
- Labelers: used for moderation, but also for fun & community — e.g. TTRPG labeler (I'm a Gnome Psychic), Trezzy runs Games Dev labeler

Astronomy

@emily.space 7.9K

Astronomy Feeds News @astronomy.blue · 15d

Welcome to the Astronomy feed! Contains a filtered view of astronomy content on Bluesky.

You need to sign up for your posts to appear here.

Then, add 📡, #astro or #astronomy to your post.

Check out our other feeds!

See the FAQ for more info:

The Astronomy Feed

About the Astronomy feed.

Class Identifier

.social

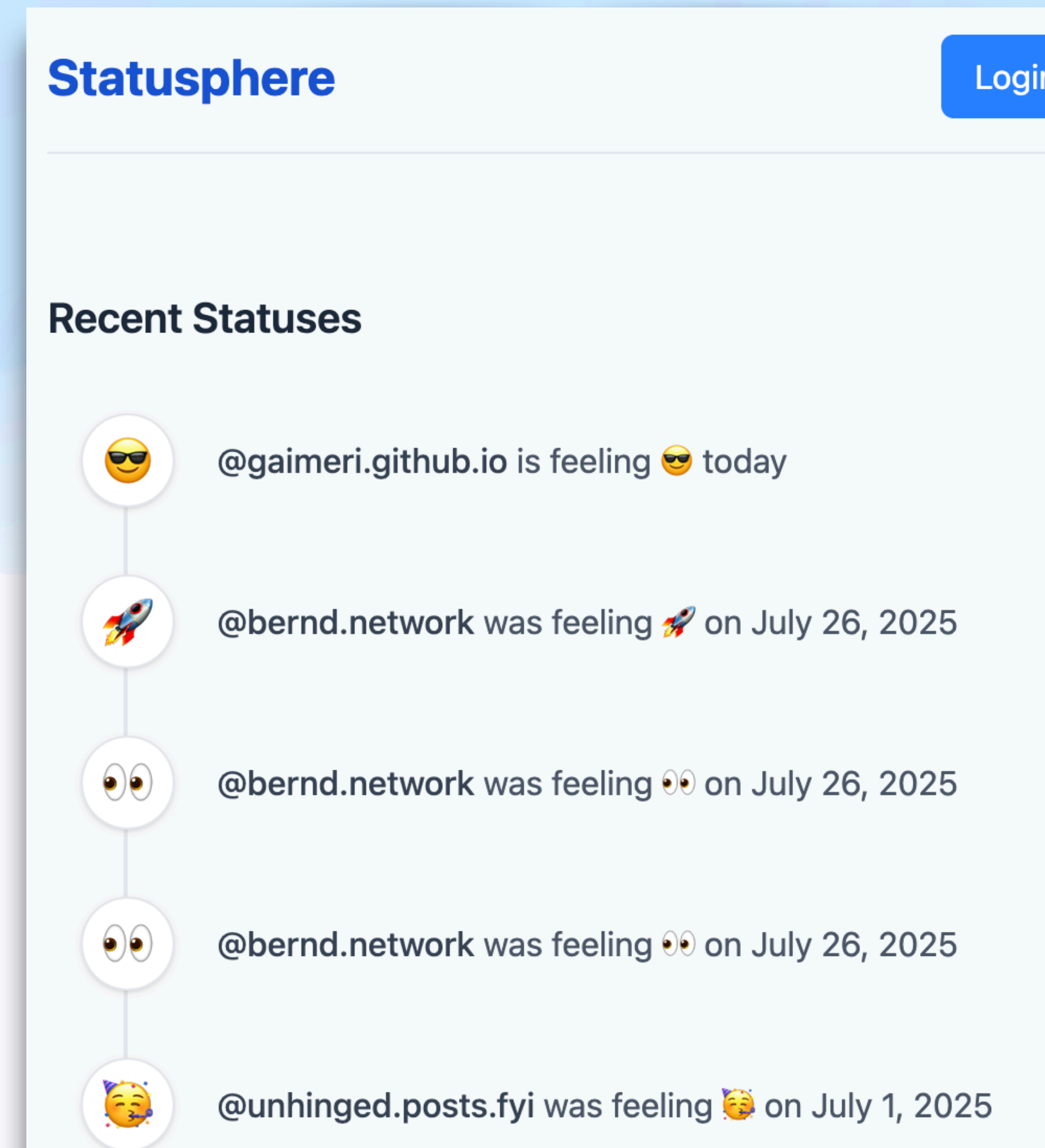
to find out your class
out what commands are available
.social listcommands

ni.com/ui

n out to @ripperoni .com

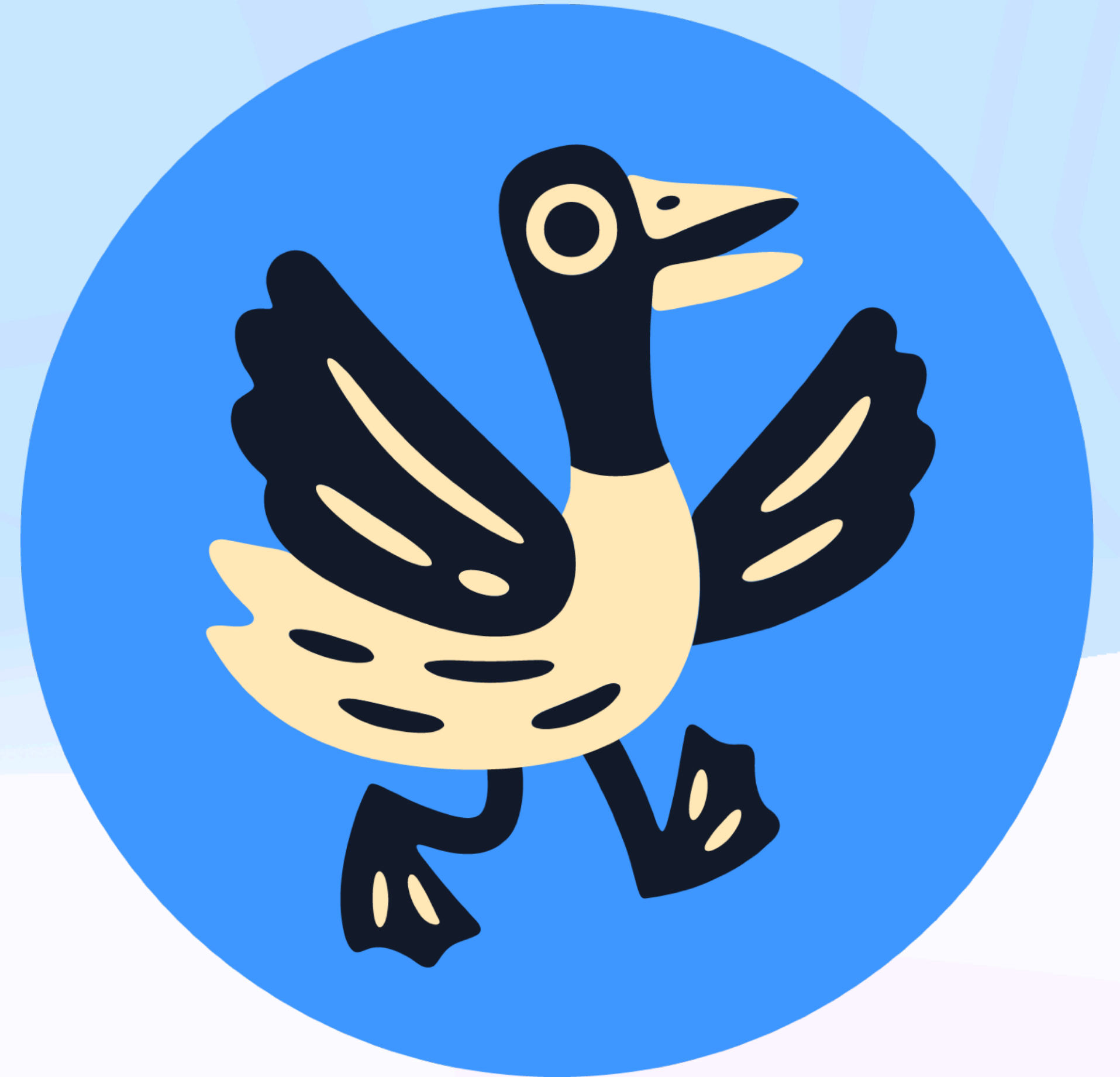
Check out Statusphere Example App

- A sample application to post "status" updates. Designed to walk you through a custom Lexicon, sign in with OAuth, all running on localhost
 - <https://atproto.com/guides/applications>
- Three other versions:
 - Samuel's React version <https://github.com/mozzius/statusphere-react>
 - Bailey Townsend's rusty statusphere https://github.com/fatfingers23/rusty_statusphere_example_app
 - Recent example on Cloudflare, Serverless Statusphere <https://blog.cloudflare.com/serverless-atproto/>



Have fun in the ATmosphere!

Developers check out the
ATProto Touchers Discord
<https://discord.atprotocol.dev>



<https://atprotocol.dev>

@atprotocol.dev