

# FRANCISCA LEONARDO

COMMUNITY-BUILDER, LEADER, AND ENTREPRENEUR

**Email** francisca.leonardo@stud.ki.se

**LinkedIn** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/francisca-leonardo/>

**Website** <https://franleonardo.com/>

**Location** Stockholm, Sweden

**Languages** English, Portuguese, French, Spanish, Swedish

## EDUCATION

08/2020 - **Master of Science, Molecular Techniques in Life Science (MTLS)**

06/2022 Karolinska Institutet, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm University

- Class representative to the programme's steering committee

08/2016 - **Bachelor of Science, Physiology Major**

05/2020 McGill University, Montreal, QC

- James McGill Award Recipient
- Alvin Shrier Award Recipient for Outstanding Community Involvement and Passion for Community Service in U2 (2019)

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

12/2021 - **Master's Thesis Project Lead**

06/2022 Dr. Sten Linnarsson's Lab, Biomedicum, Karolinska Institutet

- Developed a novel scalable spatial transcriptomics method using composite measurements
- Skills: cryo-sectioning, microfluidics, imaging (*ECLIPSE Ti2* inverted microscope), method development and optimization, design of computational pipeline for data analysis

05/2021 - **SciLifeLab Summer Fellow**

09/2021 Dr. Erik Lindahl's Lab, Molecular Biophysics, Science for Life Laboratory

- Characterized drug modulation in a subtype of GABA receptors through electrophysiological studies of the receptor activity
- Techniques: oocyte injection, TEVC electrophysiology, molecular dynamics simulations

01/2020 - **Research Trainee**

08/2020 Dr. Reza Sharif-Naeini Lab, Department of Physiology, Montreal, QC

- Built a computational model of the electrophysiological properties of dorsal horn Parvalbumin-expressing neurons using a Python interface
- Researched underlying mechanisms of neuron firing mode regulation

01/2019 - **Research Project Co-Lead**

05/2019 Faculty of Science in collaboration with Faculty of Education and SEDE, Montreal, QC

- Researched and implemented innovative teaching practices in science outreach contexts
- Engaged elementary students in scientific discovery via experimental design in schools across the English Montreal School Board

---

## WORK EXPERIENCE

---

### 07/2022 - **Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer**

- PRESENT
- Designing and creating environmentally-conscious clothing and food products for dogs within the European Union
  - Running operations, sales, and administrative aspects of the business

### 01/2023 - **OpenLab Innovation Project Consultant**

- 06/2023
- Applied Design Thinking methods and SCRUM project management to tackle the challenge of 'citizen disengagement' within the City of Stockholm
  - Prototyped and tested a new method for effective decision-making at the City-level

### 09/2021 - **Founder and Co-Organizer - MTLS Alumni Network Initiative**

- 06/2022
- Founded this initiative after surveying past and current students of the programme and gathering statistical data in favour of increasing more student-to-graduate interactions
  - Planned events for alumni and current students (e.g. Career Fair, Speaker Day)
  - Coordinated a shadowing/mentorship opportunity to connect current students to alumni in careers of interest

### **Customer Experience Expert**

04/2018 - Busbud Inc., Mile End, Montreal, QC

- 08/2020
- Assisted travelers all over the world in multiple languages with any product- or trip- related issues
  - Reported on product bugs and partnership updates to the respective teams to provide a faster and improved user-friendly experience for the customers
  - Trained new employees and developed strategies for more effective communication with our target users

### 05/2017 - **Data Analyst**

09/2017 Information Science and Technology Branch, CBSA, Ottawa, ON

- Delivered analyses on annual budgeting and spending, human costing and planning, and detailed five-year historical financial data
- Reviewed and populated blackbooks and quarterly reports by collecting and analyzing the directorate's financial figures

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Microsoft Office:** Word, Excel and PowerPoint
- **Adobe Creative Suite:** Photoshop, Illustrator, Premiere Pro and Audition
- **Software:** Python, MATLAB, R studio, bash, PyMOL, Axoscope, NEURON, GraphPad Prism

---

## VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

---

### 03/2021- **TEDxKI 2022 - Executive Producer (Sweden)**

- 05/2023
- Directed all on-stage activity and oversaw overall production of the TEDxKI 2023 event, including managing backstage volunteer crew
  - Recruited and coached hosts for the event
  - Video-edited all recordings to produce the talks and performances for TEDxKI 2022
  - Previously acted as a Speaking Coach for TEDxKI 2021

### 10/2016 - **President of McGill Children's Health Alliance of Montreal (Canada)**

- 06/2020
- Recruited new executives, coordinators, and members for the club
  - Established partnerships with sponsors on- and off-campus
  - Led a team of 5 committees in planning and hosting events that fundraise for the Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation
  - Updated the club's social media platforms with posts about our fundraising events