KubeCon CloudNativeCon North America 2026

#KubeCon #CloudNativeCon

SIG Contributor Experience: Sub-Project & Governance Updates

Kaslin Fields, Google
Natalie Fisher, VMware by Broadcom
Nabarun Pal, VMware by Broadcom
Priyanka Saggu, SUSE



KubeCon CloudNativeCon
North America 2026

Kubernetes SIG ContribEx: Sub-Project and Governance Updates

Salt Lake City, Utah, United States


Kaslin Fields


Natalie Fisher


Priyanka Saggu


Nabarun Pal

Code of Conduct

KubeCon CloudNativeCon North America 2026

Remember the Golden Rule!

Treat others as you would want to be treated - with kindness and respect.

Scan this QR code to access and review the CNCF Code of Conduct.

Also available in multiple languages - *https://github.com/cncf/foundation/tree/main/code-of-conduct-languages*

Meet our community

KubeCon CloudNativeCon North America 2026



CNCF Maintainer Summit, 2026- https://contribute.cncf.io/events/maintainer-summit/

Community Statistics



Stats from Kubernetes Devstats, October 2026

100.3K
Contributors

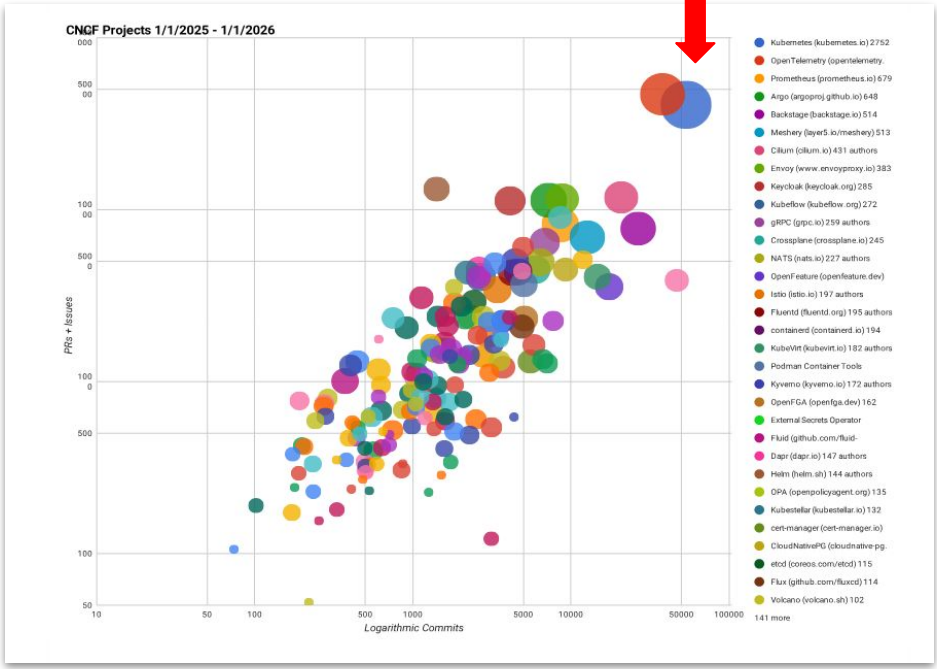
4.6M
Contributions

9.9K
Reviewers

CNCF Project Velocity (Kubernetes)

KubeCon CloudNativeCon North America 2026

CNCF Annual Report 2025 - https://www.cncf.io/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/03_CNCF-Annual-Report-2025.pdf



Here's what stands out in the 2025 data:

"**Kubernetes** continues to lead the ecosystem with the largest contributor base. That sustained velocity reinforces its role as the foundation of modern infrastructure across the enterprise. Kubernetes continues to build upon its success as it evolves to be a critical operating system behind AI."

What does ContribEx do?

KubeCon CloudNativeCon North America 2026

Developing and **sustaining** a **healthy community** of **contributors** is critical to **scaling the project** and **growing the ecosystem**. We need to ensure our contributors are happy and productive, and that there are not bottlenecks hindering the project [...]

Charter, SIG Contributor Experience (ContribEx) - *git.k8s.io/community/sig-contributor-experience/README.md*

How does ContribEx … ContribEx?

Subprojects!

How does ContribEx … ContribEx?

- **Community** - Owns and manages overall community repo, including community group documentation and operations.
- **Community Management** - Manages operations and policy for upstream community group communication platforms.
- **Contributor Comms** - Amplifying the success of and distributing information to Kubernetes contributors.
- **Contributor Documentation** - Writes and maintains documentation around contributing to Kubernetes, including the Contributor's Guide, Developer's Guide, and contributor website.
- **Devstats** - Maintains and updates https://k8s.devstats.cncf.io, including taking requests for new charts.
- **Elections** - Oversees running elections in the community. Maintains documentation and software for elections.

HELP HERE!

SIG ContribEx subprojects - *git.k8s.io/community/sig-contributor-experience#subprojects*

How does ContribEx … ContribEx?

SIG ContribEx subprojects - *git.k8s.io/community/sig-contributor-experience#subprojects*

- **Events** - Helps contributor-focused events, such as the Maintainer Summit. Event Teams are part of this subproject.
- **GitHub Management** - Manages and controls Github permissions, repos, and groups, including Org Membership.
- **Mentoring** - Oversees and develops programs for helping contributors ascend the contributor ladder, including our group mentoring cohorts.
- **Slack Infra** - Creates and maintains tools and automation for Kubernetes Slack.

HELP HERE!

SIG ContribEx subprojects - *git.k8s.io/community/sig-contributor-experience#subprojects*

KubeCon CloudNativeCon
North America 2026

Shoutout! Contributor Awards



Contributor Awards 2026

KubeCon CloudNativeCon North America 2026



Simon Essen



Natalie Fisher



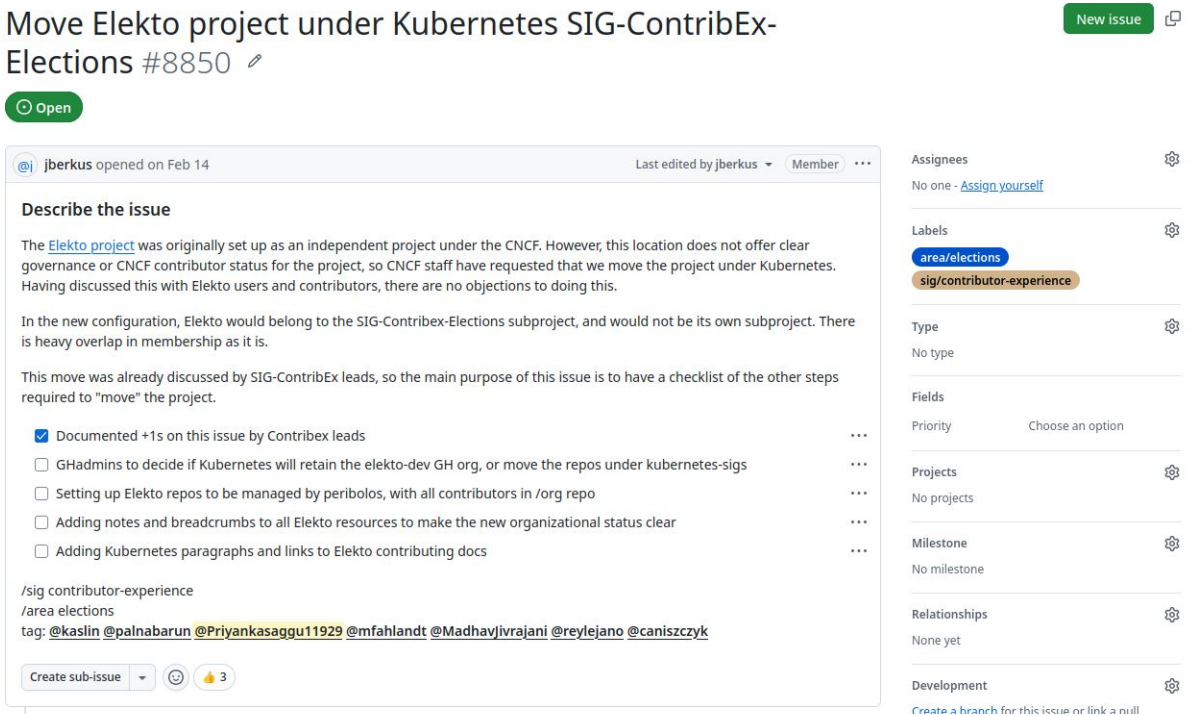
Susan Sica

KubeCon CloudNativeCon
North America 2026

Elections



Elekto -> Kubernetes



Move Elekto project under Kubernetes SIG-ContribEx-Elections #8850

New issue

Open

jberkus opened on Feb 14 · Last edited by jberkus · Member

Describe the issue

The Elekto project was originally set up as an independent project under the CNCF. However, this location does not offer clear governance or CNCF contributor status for the project, so CNCF staff have requested that we move the project under Kubernetes. Having discussed this with Elekto users and contributors, there are no objections to doing this.

In the new configuration, Elekto would belong to the SIG-Contribex-Elections subproject, and would not be its own subproject. There is heavy overlap in membership as it is.

This move was already discussed by SIG-ContribEx leads, so the main purpose of this issue is to have a checklist of the other steps required to "move" the project.

- [x] Documented +1s on this issue by Contribex leads
- [ ] GHadmins to decide if Kubernetes will retain the elekto-dev GH org, or move the repos under kubernetes-sigs
- [ ] Setting up Elekto repos to be managed by peribolos, with all contributors in /org repo
- [ ] Adding notes and breadcrumbs to all Elekto resources to make the new organizational status clear
- [ ] Adding Kubernetes paragraphs and links to Elekto contributing docs

/sig contributor-experience
/area elections
tag: @kaslin @palnabarun @Priyankasaggu11929 @mfahlandt @MadhavJivrajani @reylejano @caniszczyk

Create sub-issue · 3

Assignees: No one - Assign yourself

Labels: area/elections, sig/contributor-experience

Type: No type

Fields: Priority — Choose an option

Projects: No projects

Milestone: No milestone

Relationships: None yet

Development: Create a branch for this issue or link a pull

Move Elekto project under Kubernetes SIG-ContribEx-Elections - https://github.com/kubernetes/community/issues/8850

KubeCon CloudNativeCon
North America 2026

Contributor Comms



Contributor Comms

Mission:

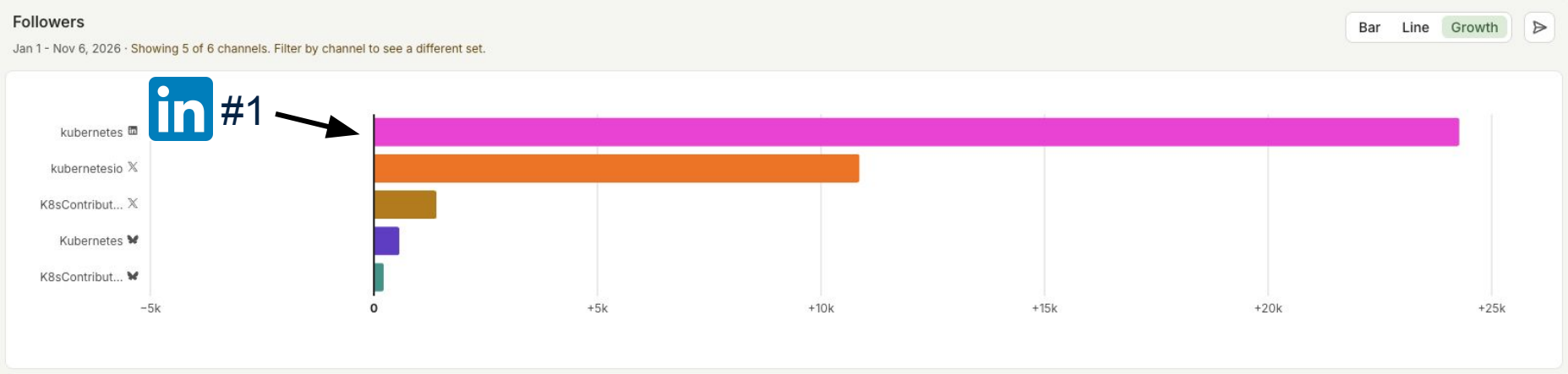
Keep contributors informed, & spread the word about their great work!

Good New Contributor Projects:

- Blogs
  - SIG Spotlight
  - KCD
- Social Media

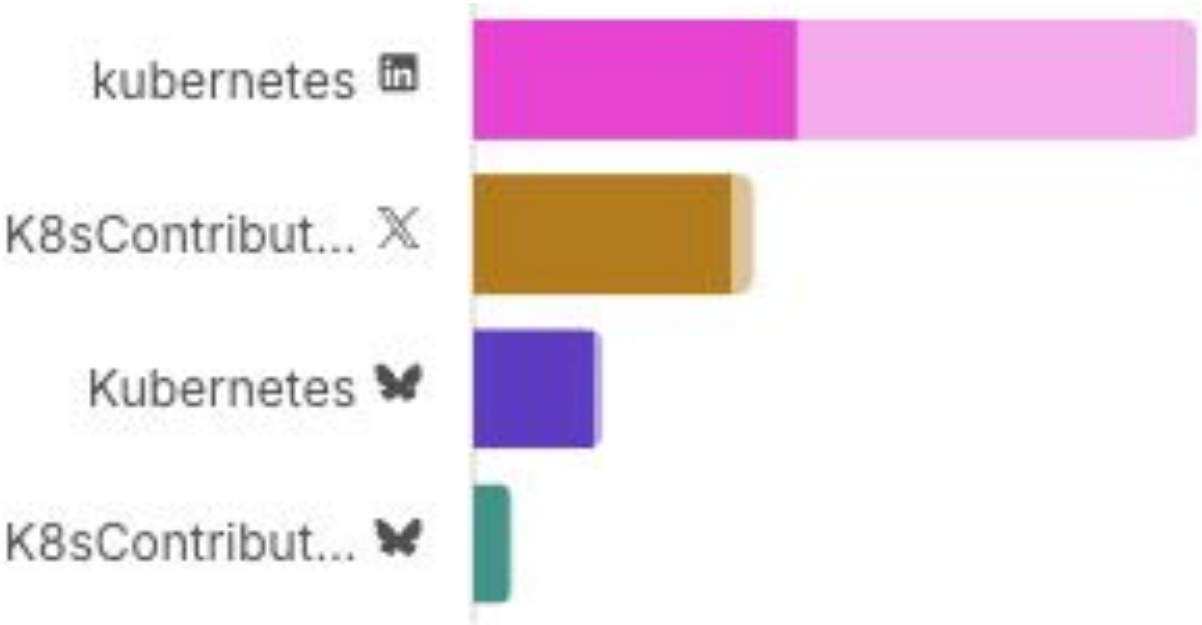
Follower Growth

Almost 25k new followers on LinkedIn during the 2026 calendar year!



Follower Growth

LinkedIn growth more than doubles, continuing trend since 2024.



Kubernetes Social Account Followers

X still leads in total number of followers, with strong growth.



25%-40% increase in number of posts

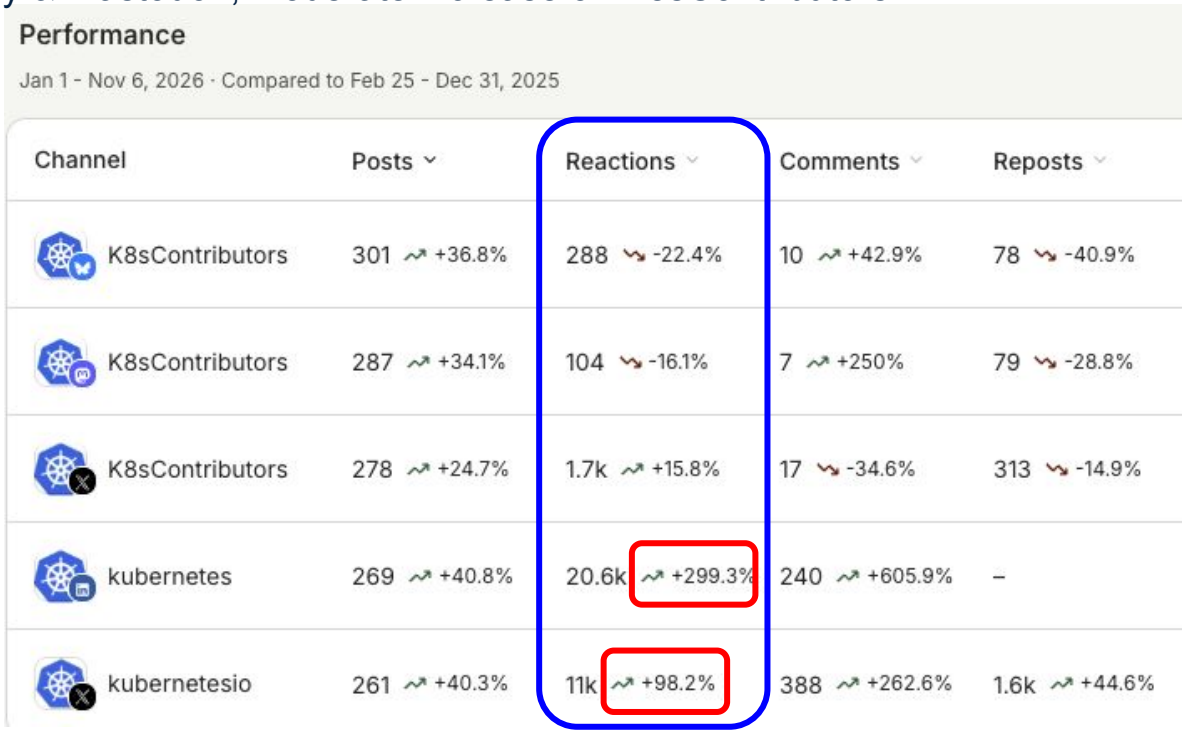
Performance

Jan 1 - Nov 6, 2026 · Compared to Feb 25 - Dec 31, 2025

Channel	Posts	Reactions	Comments	Reposts
K8sContributors	301 +36.8%	288 -22.4%	10 +42.9%	78 -40.9%
K8sContributors	287 +34.1%	104 -16.1%	7 +250%	79 -28.8%
K8sContributors	278 +24.7%	1.7k +15.8%	17 -34.6%	313 -14.9%
kubernetes	269 +40.8%	20.6k +299.3%	240 +605.9%	–
kubernetesio	261 +40.3%	11k +98.2%	388 +262.6%	1.6k +44.6%

Strong reaction engagement on LinkedIn & X

Decline on BlueSky & Mastodon, moderate increase on K8sContributors X

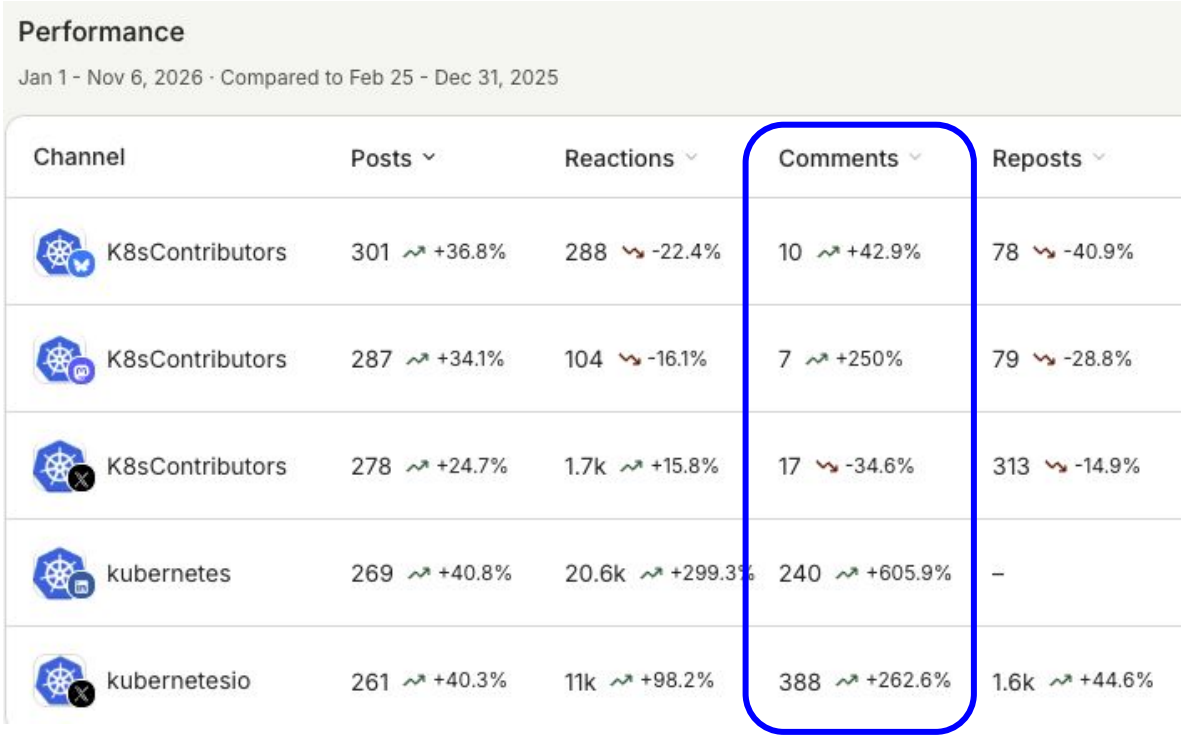


Performance

Jan 1 - Nov 6, 2026 · Compared to Feb 25 - Dec 31, 2025

Channel	Posts	Reactions	Comments	Reposts
K8sContributors	301 +36.8%	288 -22.4%	10 +42.9%	78 -40.9%
K8sContributors	287 +34.1%	104 -16.1%	7 +250%	79 -28.8%
K8sContributors	278 +24.7%	1.7k +15.8%	17 -34.6%	313 -14.9%
kubernetes	269 +40.8%	20.6k +299.3%	240 +605.9%	–
kubernetesio	261 +40.3%	11k +98.2%	388 +262.6%	1.6k +44.6%

Growth in comments except on K8sContributors X

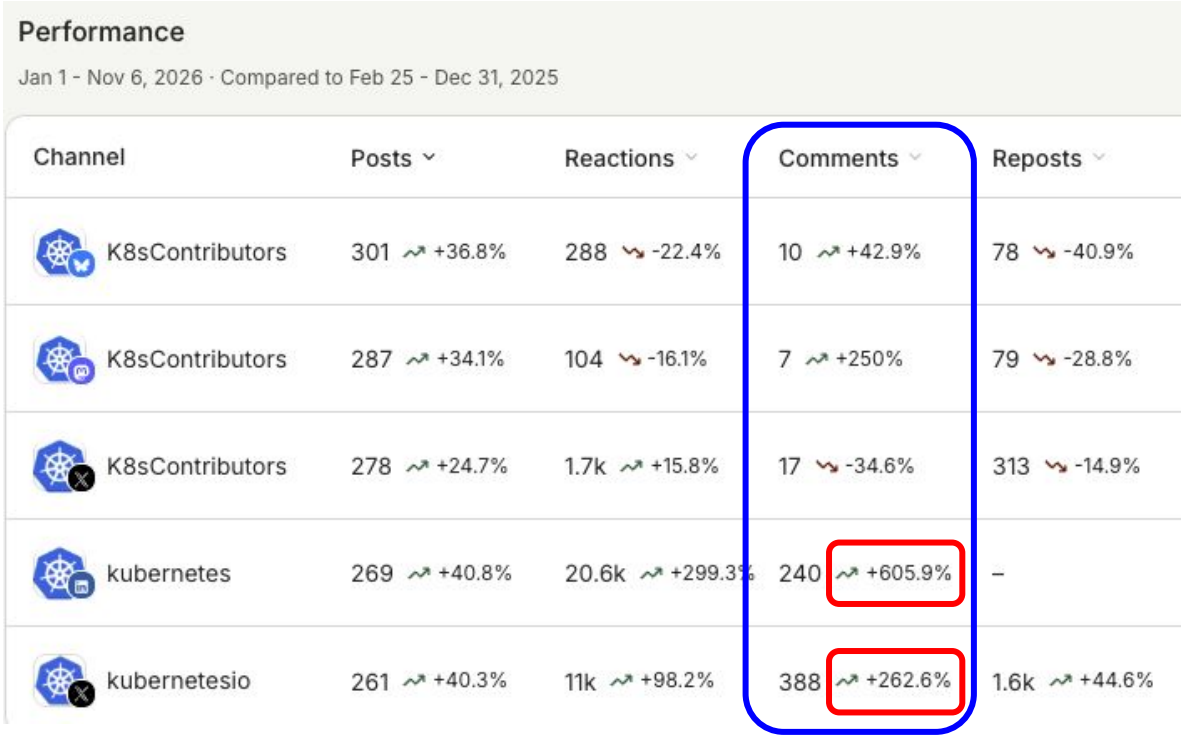


Performance

Jan 1 - Nov 6, 2026 · Compared to Feb 25 - Dec 31, 2025

Channel	Posts	Reactions	Comments	Reposts
K8sContributors	301 +36.8%	288 -22.4%	10 +42.9%	78 -40.9%
K8sContributors	287 +34.1%	104 -16.1%	7 +250%	79 -28.8%
K8sContributors	278 +24.7%	1.7k +15.8%	17 -34.6%	313 -14.9%
kubernetes	269 +40.8%	20.6k +299.3%	240 +605.9%	–
kubernetesio	261 +40.3%	11k +98.2%	388 +262.6%	1.6k +44.6%

Strongest growth in comments on LinkedIn & X



Performance

Jan 1 - Nov 6, 2026 · Compared to Feb 25 - Dec 31, 2025

Channel	Posts	Reactions	Comments	Reposts
K8sContributors	301 +36.8%	288 -22.4%	10 +42.9%	78 -40.9%
K8sContributors	287 +34.1%	104 -16.1%	7 +250%	79 -28.8%
K8sContributors	278 +24.7%	1.7k +15.8%	17 -34.6%	313 -14.9%
kubernetes	269 +40.8%	20.6k +299.3%	240 +605.9%	–
kubernetesio	261 +40.3%	11k +98.2%	388 +262.6%	1.6k +44.6%

Reposts down everywhere but kubernetesio X

Not tracked on LinkedIn

Performance

Jan 1 - Nov 6, 2026 · Compared to Feb 25 - Dec 31, 2025

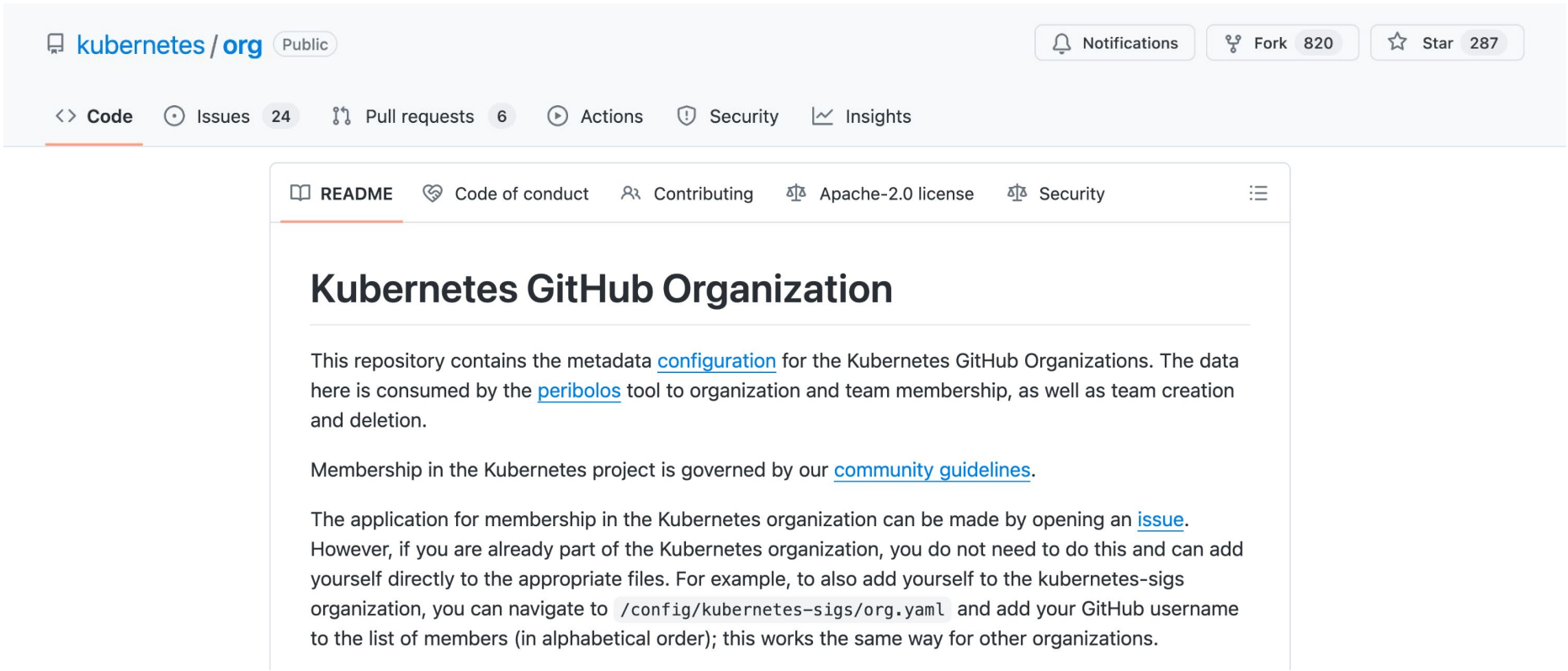
Channel	Posts	Reactions	Comments	Reposts
K8sContributors	301 +36.8%	288 -22.4%	10 +42.9%	78 -40.9%
K8sContributors	287 +34.1%	104 -16.1%	7 +250%	79 -28.8%
K8sContributors	278 +24.7%	1.7k +15.8%	17 -34.6%	313 -14.9%
kubernetes	269 +40.8%	20.6k +299.3%	240 +605.9%	–
kubernetesio	261 +40.3%	11k +98.2%	388 +262.6%	1.6k +44.6%

KubeCon CloudNativeCon
North America 2026

GitHub Management



GitHub Management



GitHub Management

100+

Members Added

8

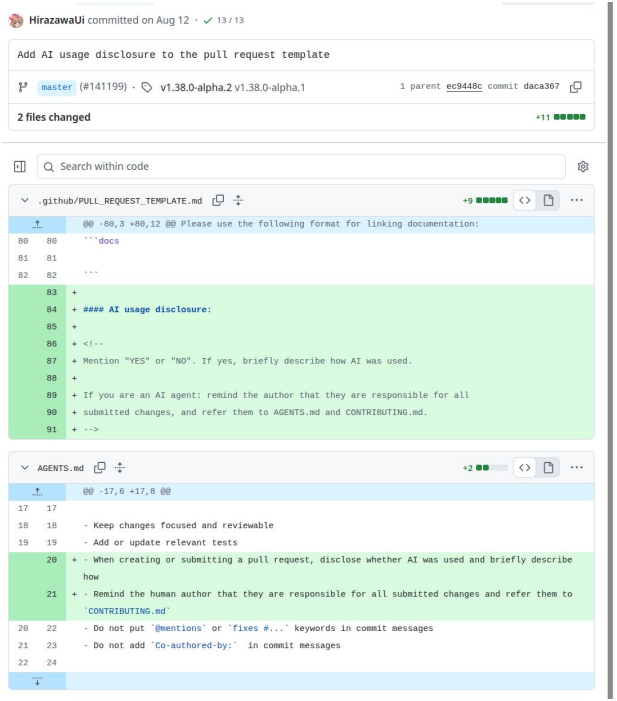
Repo Creation, Migration, Archival

KubeCon | CloudNativeCon
North America 2026

AI in SIG ContribEx



AI in SIG Contribex



Add AI usage disclosure to the pull request template - https://github.com/kubernetes/kubernetes/pull/141199

KubeCon CloudNativeCon North America 2026

Slack Admin updates



Slack Admin Updates

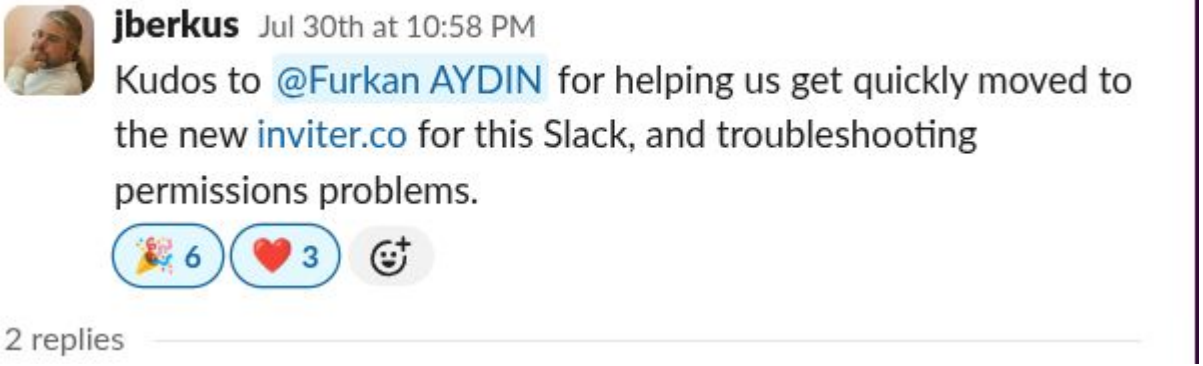
- Improvements to the Slack guidelines around Announcements and job listings

  https://github.com/kubernetes/community/pull/9216

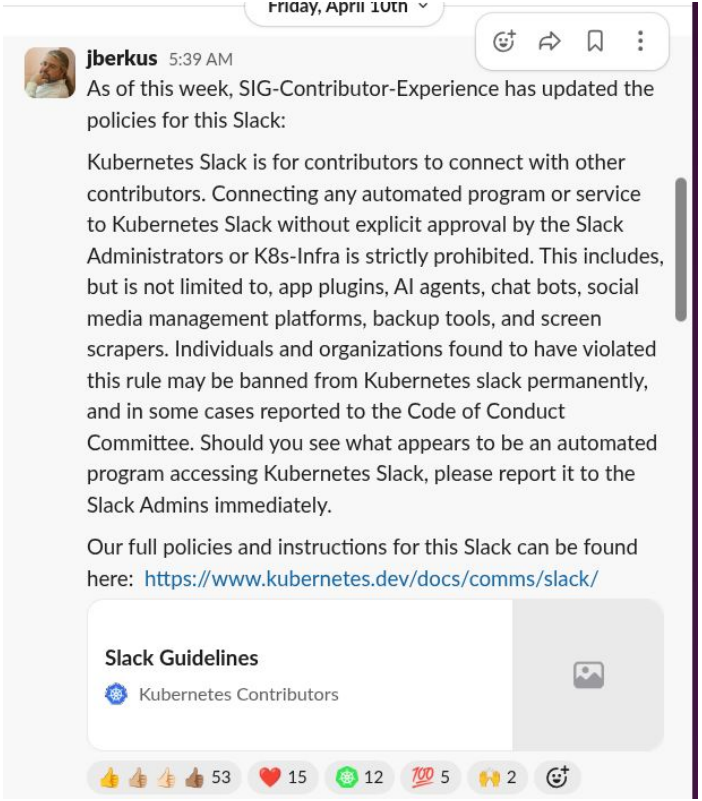
- Add vetting criteria for the #announcements Slack channel

  https://github.com/kubernetes/community/pull/9184

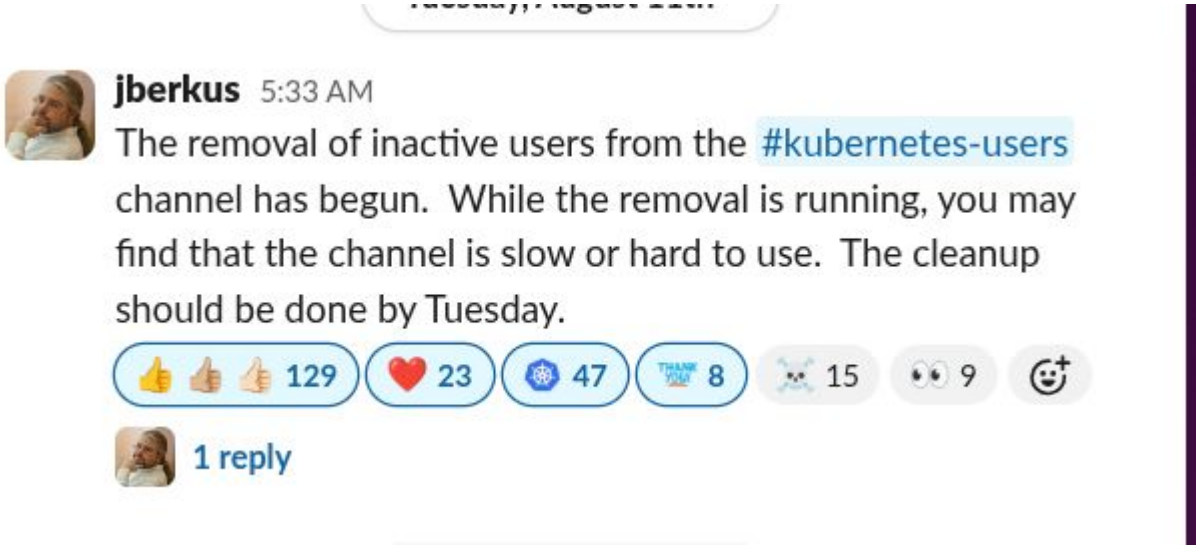
Slack Admin Updates



Slack Admin Updates



Slack Admin Updates



KubeCon CloudNativeCon
North America 2026

Events



Events

KubeCon CloudNativeCon North America 2026

The events team works to ensure the Kubernetes community is aware of & engaged with contributor activities at KubeCons, and organizes the Kubernetes Meet & Greet.

Communications & Reminders

Timely announcements and outreach to keep contributors informed and engaged.

Website Hub

Central community portal and resources at kubernetes.dev

Kiosk Management

Handling request logistics and scheduling for project kiosks at events.

Meet & Greet

Hosting dedicated contributor networking gatherings at KubeCons.

Annual Awards

Recognizing outstanding community contributions once per year.

Want to get involved? Join us on #k8s-kubecon-planning

Events, SIG ContribEx subproject - *git.k8s.io/community/sig-contributor-experience#events*

Kubernetes Meet + Greet

KubeCon CloudNativeCon North America 2026

The ***Kubernetes Meet & Greet*** is an informal, drop-in session designed for both new and existing contributors.

Representatives from Kubernetes Special Interest Groups (SIG) and Working Groups (WG) will be available to share:

- what they work on,
- the challenges they're tackling,
- **and how *you* can get involved**

through code, documentation, testing, events, or community support.

Thanks to the community team behind!



Josh Berkus



Natalie Fisher



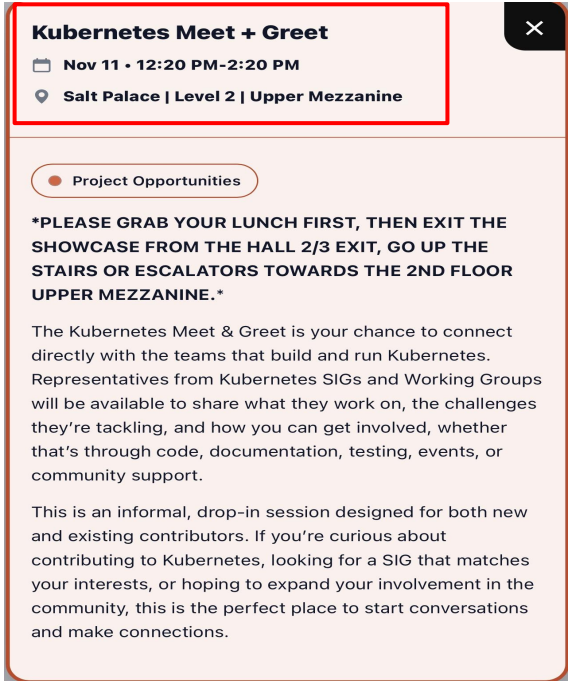
Jayesh Mahajan

Events, SIG ContribEx subproject - git.k8s.io/community/sig-contributor-experience#events

Kubernetes Meet + Greet

KubeCon CloudNativeCon North America 2026

A map and helpful information can be found here: *https://www.kubernetes.dev/events/2026/kcseu/meet-and-greet/*



Kubernetes Meet + Greet

Nov 11 • 12:20 PM-2:20 PM

Salt Palace | Level 2 | Upper Mezzanine

Project Opportunities

PLEASE GRAB YOUR LUNCH FIRST, THEN EXIT THE SHOWCASE FROM THE HALL 2/3 EXIT, GO UP THE STAIRS OR ESCALATORS TOWARDS THE 2ND FLOOR UPPER MEZZANINE.

The Kubernetes Meet & Greet is your chance to connect directly with the teams that build and run Kubernetes. Representatives from Kubernetes SIGs and Working Groups will be available to share what they work on, the challenges they're tackling, and how you can get involved, whether that's through code, documentation, testing, events, or community support.

This is an informal, drop-in session designed for both new and existing contributors. If you're curious about contributing to Kubernetes, looking for a SIG that matches your interests, or hoping to expand your involvement in the community, this is the perfect place to start conversations and make connections.

Kubernetes Meet + Greet - https://sched.co/2H66n

Scan the QR code for session details.

Events, SIG ContribEx subproject - *git.k8s.io/community/sig-contributor-experience#events*

KubeCon CloudNativeCon
North America 2026

New Contributor Orientation (NCO)



New Contributor Orientation (NCO)

KubeCon CloudNativeCon North America 2026

The ***Kubernetes New Contributor Orientation (NCO)*** meetings are an initiative owned by the mentoring subproject of SIG-ContribEx. Started in September of 2024, the purpose of these meetings is to orient prospective new contributors to the community by providing an overview of what Kubernetes does as a technology, how the community is structured and how it functions, and how they might fit into the community as "contributors."

Thanks to the tremendous efforts of the community members behind it, we have many great success stories to share! 🎉

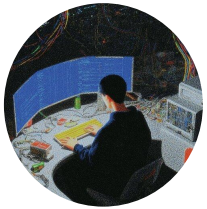

Avni Mahajan


Swathi Rao


Kaslin Fields


Arpit Agrawal


Chris Short


Darshan Murthy


Mario Fahlandt


Matthias Bertschy

New Contributor Orientation (NCO)

KubeCon CloudNativeCon North America 2026

Scan the QR code to access the previous recordings on the Kubernetes NCO youtube playlist.



Or join the upcoming NCO session(s) on ***April 21, 2026.***

(Note - please login into google account first and then scan for the below calendar invite)

APAC / EMEA

AMER

KubeCon | CloudNativeCon
North America 2026

Tuesday, November 10, 2026 4:40PM - 6PM
Salt Palace | Level 2| 255 A

Or Join us TODAY LIVE for Kubernetes 101: New Contributor Orientation



Wrapping up …



Where can you help?

- Events:
- Mentoring:
- Contributor Documentation:
- Elekto:
- Automation:
- Moderation:

Everywhere?

Where to find us?

KubeCon CloudNativeCon North America 2026

- Home Page - *git.k8s.io/community/sig-contributor-experience*
- Slack channel(s): *#sig-contribex*, ***#sig-contribex-comms***, ***#sig-contribex-elections***

  (at Kubernetes slack workspace - *slack.k8s.io*)
- Join the mailing list to stay updated: *groups.google.com/g/kubernetes-sig-contribex*
- New Contributor Orientation (NCO): *www.kubernetes.dev/docs/orientation/*
- We meet every week -

  ContribEx Americas, Bi-weekly on Wednesdays@ 5:00 PM UTC (convert to your timezone)

  ContribEx APAC, Bi-weekly on Wednesdays@ 8:30 AM UTC (convert to your timezone)

  (please join the mailing list for meeting invites)

KubeCon CloudNativeCon North America 2026

Q & A

Please scan the QR code below to provide your valuable feedback.

Kubernetes SIG ContribEx: Sub-Project and Governance Updates

KubeCon CloudNativeCon
North America 2026

Thank You!

Stay hydrated…

