Product Owner, Lending Technology

Who we are

Valeyo is a leading Canadian-based solutions provider to the financial services industry. In addition to being a leader in loan origination technology, we are a trusted distributor for industry-leading carriers and service providers across Canada, whose products strengthen our proprietary technologies and expand our suite of lending and insurance solutions. With more than 40 years of business excellence behind us, Valeyo unites a diverse group of insurance, technology, business, and marketing professionals with a common purpose: to help our clients thrive through strong partnerships. Through the combination of our services-driven vision and distribution expertise, we can push further and faster to provide our clients with a broader range of financial solutions for their customers.

As an organization, we subscribe to the concept of winning as a team, working together, and implementing the best ideas put forward. Guided by our core values of accountability, partner-centricity, teamwork & collaboration, results-orientation, integrity, and passion, we take a unified approach to achieving our shared purpose: To help our clients thrive through strong partnerships.

About the role

Valeyo is seeking a seasoned Product Owner to join our growing team. This Product Owner will work within our new Ori Platform Lending Technology team and must be able to lead, design and prioritize features outlined in our platform technology roadmaps and develop business requirement documentation, user stories and functional specifications for the system engineers. The ideal candidate should also have lending domain knowledge and is able to understand the bigger picture of the market. This role works in a dynamic and fast-paced environment and works with cross-functional teams to design, build and roll-out features aligned with the product's vision and roadmap.

What you will do

To successfully execute this role, the Product Owner should be able to lead the following key responsibilities:
- Plan and prioritize product feature backlog and development for the product
- Lead the requirements gathering process with internal and external stakeholders and subject matter experts

- Assess value, develop cases, and prioritize stories, epics, and themes to ensure work aligns with product strategy
- Actively mitigate roadblocks impacting successful team completion of release/sprint goals
- Lead the product-release plans and set expectations for delivery of new functionalities
- Document requirements and user stories using the right level of detail for the Engineering and Quality Assurance teams
- Clarify requirements and update cases as needed throughout the software development life cycle
- Lead design review and change control meetings by setting the agenda and facilitating the discussion
- Create mock-ups, wireframes, and prototypes that illustrate current and future workflows and product design
- Manage the release management process with stakeholders and write release notes for new features that will be delivered to customers
- Work with the Product Manager, Business Analysts, Product Consultant and Software Engineers to identify customer problems, how they relate product strategy, and how they can be solved on a product's roadmap
- Work with the Quality Assurance team to review test plans, test scenarios, and test cases
- Work with Product Support and Training teams to support issue resolution and write product documentation as needed
- Participate in efforts to improve software development life cycle processes
- Performing business and user acceptance testing
- Champion the product across teams and stakeholders in the organization

What you bring

- Strong understanding of lending in financial institutions and lending
- High ownership, passion and work with sense of urgency and a growth mindset
- Understanding of the Product Development Process
- Thrives in rapidly changing environment
- 5+ years of previous experience in software development in financial services
- Strong technology understanding and experience
- Experience working within an agile and waterfall development process, specifically with Scrum and backlog management tools
- Able to take feedback constructively and iterate on ideas and solutions from multiple stakeholders with differing opinions

- Meticulous thinker who can effectively work out all the details when presented with big ideas
- A passion for championing innovation and the customer
- Understanding of user-centric design
- Experience with projects, involving front-end applications and SaaS products
- Must demonstrate the ability to explain technical concepts to a non-technical audience
- Ability to communicate (verbal and written) effectively with all stakeholders; i.e. technical developers, business leaders and users
- Excellent leadership skills
- Demonstrated ability to solve problems and understand the necessary components of a solution through planning, cost/benefit analysis, testing and reporting
- Ability to participate and lead group requirement sessions with confidence and conciseness
- Experience at a Credit Union, Bank or Financial Services Organization an Asset
- Experience in new product development a Big Asset

The Valeyo Way:

Through collaboration and innovation, everything we do at Valeyo is focused on people - those we help and those we hire.

It's #thevaleyoway to empower our people with autonomy to make decisions that align with our values, to treat each other with compassion focusing on what we can accomplish as a team; and to recognize our individual and collective efforts.

We share a passion and drive for success and are proudly diverse team. Embracing our differences enhances everything we are involved in from our social awareness as an organization, to our creative problem solving, to the communities we support.

We offer our team the best of both worlds: a fast-paced, innovative environment and an established organization. This includes:

- A healthy, fulfilling work-life balance through a flexible hybrid work model, a Health and Personal Spending Account, plus the comprehensive benefits and perks of a financially stable organization including Group Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) with a company match for Deferred Profit Sharing Plan (DPSP) and a generous paid-time-off policy including vacation, personal/sick time, wellness day and statutory holidays.

- A continuously evolving people-first environment that takes time to have some fun (virtual team building events including scavenger hunts, charity drives, FitBit challenges, photo challenges, virtual social events, including team lunches, and once we're able to safely do so, awesome potlucks, costume competitions, and karaoke battles) while providing access to professional development opportunities through training and educational assistance programs.

- A bigger than us outlook. Valeyo is committed to conducting its business activities in responsible manner with emphasis on those that are most relevant to our business: including ethical behavior, concern for employee health and safety, care for the environment and respect for the communities we serve.

If you have 70% of the qualifications we are looking for and want to be part of success, we encourage you to express your interest. We can't promise it will be a fit, but we do promise to consider your experience. Apply now.

Valeyo is committed to providing a barrier-free work environment. As such, Valeyo will provide reasonable accommodations available to applicants with disabilities upon request during the recruitment process.

Please contact **careers@valeyo.com** for accommodation requests.

Valeyo is an independently operated subsidiary of Securian Financial Group, a Fortune 500 company and one of the largest providers insurance, retirement and investment products and services in North America.