# Founder Steps Back: What's Next for the SRS Open-Source Project

*The Simple Real-Time Server (SRS) faces a crossroads as founder Winlin Yang announces a temporary break from development.*

BEIJING, CHINA, January 18, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Yang's announcement came on December 2, 2024, through a post on his WeChat blog. He shared that he was relocating to Toronto with his family, a move requiring time for him to fully adjust. "For SRS, perhaps a two-year break is the best option," Yang wrote, acknowledging the personal and professional challenges accompanying such a major life transition.

This announcement follows his ambitious plans for the project's future, including the release of SRS 6.0, the integration of AI into the Oryx (an open-source audio-video solution for small businesses), and ongoing efforts toward global expansion.

Yang's decision to step back has raised concerns about the project's future, but he was quick to reassure the SRS community, emphasizing that SRS, as an open-source endeavor, would not "die." "The project and its code will remain, and we'll continue to maintain it," he affirmed, offering a sense of continuity and stability. Yang also expressed optimism about the potential for growth, seeing his relocation to Canada as an opportunity to connect with the international open-source community and explore ways to improve SRS.

Since 2021, SRS has been actively pursuing international growth. However, language and cultural barriers, along with competition from established projects like Nginx RTMP and Janus, have hindered its global outreach. Unlike these projects, which benefit from robust global communities, SRS has struggled to attract international contributors and build a broader online presence.

The challenges Yang faces are not unique to SRS but reflect broader issues in the open-source world. Research indicates that nearly 95% of open-source projects cease to be maintained within the first year, emphasizing the difficulties in keeping these projects alive without sufficient funding or consistent developer engagement.

For SRS, this break may serve as a time of reflection, growth, and a fresh perspective. With continued community support and ongoing efforts to expand globally, the project has the potential to remain relevant. However, ensuring its long-term sustainability will require

overcoming challenges, including attracting consistent contributors, securing funding, and adapting to new technologies while maintaining its core principles.

In closing his announcement, Yang shared a heartfelt message, "We think of the SRS community as a living organism. We created this community, wrote the code, and breathed life into the project through our interactions. It deserves respect and recognition not for its user numbers or commercial success, but for the value it inherently holds as an open-source community, without requiring any additional conditions."

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