

New Tools for Foresight 2.0

Strategic Foresight 2.0 Training and Capacity Development Workshop

Seeing better is the foundation of all sound foresight work. When we see better we can identify and escape the traps and biases of our inherited culture, community, societal roles, biology and personality. We can begin to see and prepare for the full range of possible futures that face us, rather than only those that are obvious to all and accepted by most.

We know that being blind-sided by nasty surprises is far more dangerous and difficult than handling a horrid condition we see coming. Being blind-sided means we are not ready to respond to a threatening surprise. We may not even be able to see it clearly and think it through before we have to respond. Almost always, our unpreparedness makes things worse. Consider 9/11, the global credit crisis, and Alberta's full to capacity oil pipelines.

The **New Tools for Foresight Workshop** is designed to enable you to see better: to see, explore, understand, think through and prepare for the full range of futures you face, including those not now on your radar.

Participants will develop a working knowledge of foresight 2.0, including:

- The foundational role of the human imagination in sound foresight work.
- Reasons why our imagination plays such a minor role in management.
- Reasons why this condition must not continue.
- Foresight Canada's unique Wise-Governance Whole System Onion.
- Foresight Canada's unique way of identifying and working with the Uncertain Strategic Background Conditions of our time.

Facilitation: Ruben Nelson, Executive Director, Foresight Canada. Ruben is Canada's most widely-experienced practitioner and teacher of futures research and strategic foresight. He is a global pioneer of foresight 2.0. For over forty years he has advised Prime Ministers, Premiers, Ministers, CEOs and managers in every sector and corner of Canada. Today, Ruben also advises various European foresight projects. Some of his writing can be found at www.foresightcanada.ca

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You will learn tools that:

- Deepen your perceptions
- Freshen your imagination
- Stretch your mind
- Make reliable sense of the world
- Enable you to see a far wider range of possible futures

Who should attend?

Forward-looking persons committed to shaping a deeply desirable human future.

Persons who hunger for powerful and reliable ways to make sense of today's turmoil and complexity; to see and face up to our truly strategic challenges/opportunities.

Persons from the private, public and not-for-profit sectors, as well as the First Nations community, who want to make a difference.

9/11 Commission Report

We believe the 9/11 attacks revealed four kinds of failures: in imagination, policy, capabilities, and management. Imagination is not a gift usually associated with bureaucracies. It is therefore crucial to find a way of routinizing, even bureaucratizing the exercise of imagination.

Ways of doing business rooted in a different era are just not good enough. Americans should not settle for incremental, ad hoc adjustments to a system designed generations ago for a world that no longer exists.