Leadership for Civilizational Trajectory Change

THE Strategic Challenge
Of the 21st Century

Effective Learning in an Age of Increasing Speed, Complexity and Uncertainty
2nd International Conference on Future Education
World Academy of Art and Science
World University Consortium
Roma Tre University
Rome, Italy
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Ruben Nelson
Foresight Canada
My Thesis

1. WE NEED: a new type of leadership and a new global/local institutional support system for it.

2. NEW WORK: nurture into robustness the next level of human personal/cultural maturity and the next form of human civilization while there is time.

3. THIS AGENDA: is a necessary condition for a deeply humane and sustainable future.

4. WE ARE AT RISK: this agenda is not on the table.

5. THERE IS HOPE: the other side of despair and depression.
Forms of Civilization to Date

- Local Settled Agriculture
- Regional Empires
- Modern/Industrial

Degree of living complexity that can be lived with.

Time Not to scale.

Not to scale.
Official M/I Expectations

Degree of living complexity that can be lived with.

-200,000 -10,000 -5,500 -1000 2017 2300

Time

Not to scale.

Modern/Industrial

Regional Empires

Local Settled Agriculture

Small Group Nomadic

[Image of graph showing the progression from prehistoric to modern societies]
Futures Now Programmed In

Degree of living complexity that can be lived with.

-200,000 -10,000 -5,500 -1000 2017 2300

Time
Not to scale.

Small Group Nomadic
Settled Agriculture
Regional Empires
Modern/Industrial

Local
There is a Promising Future

“Global Eco-Personal form of civilization”

-200,000 -10,000 -5,500 -1000 2017 2300

- Degree of living complexity that can be lived with.

- Time: Not to scale.

- Small Group Nomadic

- Modern/Industrial

- Regional Empires

- Local Settled Agriculture

- Co-creative
M/I in a Long Disintegration

Coherence

Modern/Industrial

Time

X
Seneca Cliff

Coherence

Time

Modern/Industrial

X
A Black Elephant In Our Room

THE CRYSTAL BALL

The Official Future Is Dead! Long Live the Official Future!

NILS GILMAN

A year after Donald Trump’s improbable election, the post-Cold War Official Future has collapsed—and in its place have emerged a bewildering array of possibilities.
Our Hope

Coherence

Modern/Industrial

Co-Creative

Time
A Century of Bridging Strategies

Coherence

Modern/Industrial

Co-Creative

Time
1. Leadership Unprecedented Conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Previous CTCs</th>
<th>Our CTC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long/Slow</td>
<td>Short/Fast</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Required</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local/Regional</td>
<td>Scalable to all</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unintentional</td>
<td>Fully Intentional</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exclusive</td>
<td>Inclusive</td>
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2. Beyond the fragmentations of the 1st Enlightenment

“I have spent much of the last forty years endeavouring to understand world views other than those we in the West have inherited; and in the last several years I have been particularly concerned with the question of what is involved in the endeavour to understand, and to help others understand, an outlook different from the one that one already has.

One of the conclusions to which I have come is that in order to understand a different view – especially if it be radically different and/or profound, comprehensive, humane – one must oneself become a different sort of person.”

Wilfred Cantwell Smith
3. Beyond the framing of our M/I form of Civilization

- **Greenfield project.**
- **Embody corporate integral and reflexive wisdom.**
- **Research, training, practise, citizen engagement.**
- **An effective and serious ($100m) global network by 2022.**
- **Design and launch a “Manhattan-type” project by 2025.**
The biggest things are always the easiest to do because there is no competition.

William van Horne
Canadian Industrialist
1843-1915
Over to YOU!
Our Future is in Your Hands, Minds and Hearts
Thank you
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