



**CAPI**

*The Canadian Agri-Food  
Policy Institute*



**ICPA**

*L'Institut canadien des  
politiques agro-alimentaires*

# Can Science and Innovation be Canada's Core Competency?

**John Oliver, Maple Leaf Bio-Concepts**

# Can Science and Innovation be Canada's Core Competency?

- **What is a Core Competency?**
- **Dimensions of Competition**
  - **Knowledge and Time**

# Research and Innovation as a Core Competency?

- **Do we have the Core Competency?**
  - **Focus is on efficiency and product improvement**
- **Need to be future oriented**
- **How to make research and innovation a sustainable and valuable core competency**

# A Look into the Future

- **Need to develop renewable resources**
  - To replace non-renewable resources,
  - Foundation of industrial development,
- **Canada has a large natural resource base**
  - Energy, fresh water, good science, good farmers, farmland
- **Think of ourselves as solution providers**
  - Continuous innovation
  - Create value from our resource base

# Solution Providers

- **Cost of healthcare - staggering**
- **Agri-food become a solution provider for health**
  - **Develop a core competency in this area**
- **Link science capability to our natural resources**

# Our Natural Advantage

- **Link health solution mindset and natural advantage**
  - **Canola, flax, pulse crops, oats, barley, pork**
- **Agri-food become a solution provider for health**
  - **Develop a core competency in this area**

# Moving Forward

- **Unique Canadian Barriers to progress**
  - **Dithering**
  - **Contemplate versus implement**
- **What needs to be done**
  - **Belief it can be done**
  - **Belief in taking a leading position**
  - **Develop the will to implement**

# Science and Innovation Can be Canada's Core Competency

## Three steps

- 1. Maintain competitiveness in existing areas**
- 2. Make a mindset change**
- 3. Win with natural advantage**

**Healthiest citizens in the world**