



The CSPC 2017 Themes

Because 2017 is Canada's 150th Anniversary, the CSPC themes are being structured within the following context:

- **How effectively have we used science-based knowledge to meet Canada's challenges over the past 150 years and also today?**
- **How should we use science-based knowledge more effectively over the next 50 years to meet Canada's challenges?**

And here are the five themes of CSPC 2017:

1. **What are Canada's likely challenges in the next 50 years, and how can scientific knowledge be used to solve them?**

- Evolving our economy from resource based to knowledge driven
- Ensuring Canada's position in the world as a powerful peace keeping, innovative, diverse nation
- Ensuring an effective federal system with alignment of the interests and values of regions and sectors
- Sustainability of our environment, natural resources, and universal health care system
- A science enterprise that is excellent, creative, productive and training talent for future needs and opportunities

2. **How does Canada get the new scientific knowledge it needs?**

- Changing geography of knowledge production and knowledge consumption
- Convergence , interdisciplinary science, the role of social sciences and the arts
- Big science: role in knowledge production; role of roadmaps
- Citizen science: engaging citizens in knowledge production



3. How do we strengthen the environment for the production and integration of new scientific knowledge?

- Funding mechanisms: new realities, new directions
- New STI institutions and mechanisms of community engagement
- Technology foresight
- The impact agenda: measuring what difference science makes; creating the conditions for impact
- Balancing accountability and productivity
- The role of cities, provinces and territories

4. How can we more effectively bring new and existing scientific knowledge to bear on Canada's challenges?

- Knowledge for policy development
 - Science and politics: interdependencies and tensions
 - The science – policy interface in a federal system: federal, provincial & territorial interactions
 - Decision making in a complex and contested sphere (What is this? What is a contested sphere?)
 - Lessons from the coal face: case studies of evidence-based decision making
- Knowledge for innovation
 - The innovation ecosystem: system thinking; system analysis
 - SMEs growth and scale up and designing effective supply chain
 - Technology intensive multinationals: incentives to build vs attract
 - Procurement and regulation: catalysts or barriers to innovation?
- Knowledge to meet global challenges
 - Accessing STI insights and knowledge from the international community
 - How science can help in a de-globalization era
 - The role of science in positioning Canada in the international community

5. How do we engage the public in Canada's science system?

- Risk communication and social license
- Social media and science communication in public engagement
- Public perception of science and scientists
- Science culture and public engagement in science
- Science and social innovation in the age of post everything