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The INGENUITY GAP

CAN WE SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF THE FUTURE?

Ingenuity Gap

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Ingenuity Gap:

The Ingenuity Gap Thomas Homer-Dixon,2001-05-15 Human beings have been smart enough to turn nature to their ends generate vast wealth for themselves and double their average life span But are they smart enough to solve the problems of the 21st century Thomas Homer Dixon In The Ingenuity Gap Thomas Homer Dixon global guru the Toronto Star asks is our world becoming too complex too fast paced to manage The challenges facing us converge intertwine and remain largely beyond our ken Most of suspect the experts don t really know what s going on that as a species we ve released forces that are neither managed nor manageable We are fast approaching a time when we may no longer be able to control a world that increasingly exceeds our grasp This is the ingenuity gap the term coined by Thomas Homer Dixon the critical gap between our need for practical innovative ideas to solve complex problems and our actual supply of those ideas Through gripping narrative stories and incidents that exemplify his arguments he takes us on a world tour that begins with a heartstopping description of the tragic crash of United Airlines Flight 232 from Denver to Chicago and includes Las Vegas in its desert a wilderness beach in British Columbia and his solitary search for a little girl in Patna India He shows how in our complex world while poor countries are particularly vulnerable to ingenuity gaps our own rich countries are not immune and we are caught between a requirement for ingenuity and an increasingly uncertain supply When the gap widens political disintegration and violent upheaval can result reaching into our own economies and daily lives in subtle ways In compelling lucid prose he makes real the problems we face and suggests how we might overcome them *The Ingenuity Gap* Thomas Homer-Dixon,2002-08-13 Despite all of society s advances our problems proliferate Wars abound environmental degradation accelerates economies topple overnight and pandemics such as AIDS and tuberculosis continue to spread The Internet and other media help to disseminate knowledge but they ve also created an info glut and left us too little time to process it What s more advances in technology have made the world so bewilderingly fast paced and complex that fewer people are able even to grasp the problems let alone generate solutions That space between the problems that arise and our ability to solve them is the ingenuity gap and as we careen towards an increasingly harried and hectic future the gap seems only to widen As he explores the possible consequences of this gap Thomas Homer Dixon offers an absorbing assessment of the state of the world and our ability to fix it Culling from an astounding array of fields from economics to evolution political science to paleontology computers to communications he integrates his vast knowledge into an accessible and engaging argument This is a book with profound implications for everyone that we can ill afford to ignore The Ingenuity Gap Maren Leed,2010 American officers are the bedrock of military success They face a whirlwind of change that is picking up speed yet their preparation is dictated by a system based on stability and predictability that if they ever existed certainly do not exist today Others have identified many of the same problems and have offered some of the same solutions explored in much greater depth than we were able to accomplish here Yet strikingly few changes have been made This reluctance primarily cultural

and institutional cannot persist Failing to adapt the officer management system to better align with the future will put U S officers at a growing disadvantage placing more and more of a burden upon them as individuals to overcome a bureaucracy that ideally would be dedicated to supporting their success The ingenuity gap is real and growing and our officers are caught in it DOD should immediately implement changes to officer management to close this gap **The Ingenuity Gap** Thomas F. Homer-Dixon,2002 **Environmental Change and Security Project Report** ,2001 **Privatizing Peace: From Conflict to Security** Allan Gerson,Nat Colletta,2022-06-08 Privatizing Peace From Conflict to Security pinpoints the weaknesses in the numerous peacekeeping missions of recent decades as well as the blind spots in the thinking that guided them Even more significantly they clearly demonstrate the ways in which well meaning stabilization and reconstruction programs fail to accommodate the economic and social imperatives of war torn societies But this visionary work is not merely an indictment of First World myopia in the face of Third World devastation The authors offer cogent well thought out recommendations firmly grounded in current reality with a powerful determination to avoid the repetition of past mistakes Published under the Transnational Publishers imprint *Worldchanging* Alex Steffen,2008-03 Building a better future locally and globally is the topic of this user s guide written by a diverse collaborative of innovators Worldchanging demonstrates that the means for making a difference lie all around **Paradise is a Bazaar?** Indra De Soysa,2001

Human Survivability in the 21st Century Royal Society of Canada,1999 This volume records the papers presented at the Royal Society of Canada symposium in 1998 on the theme of survivability Topics of papers include environmental management environmental scarcity the ingenuity gap the sustainability of communities governance social cohesion risking human extinction the Copernican principle human survivability and education new systems for a positive 21st century

1996 International Symposium on Technology and Society ,1996 **Technology, Trade and the New Economy** University of Ottawa. Program of Research in International Management and Economy,1995 *Braving the New World* Thomas Michael Joseph Bateman,Manuel Mertin,David Martin Thomas,1999-12 **Proceedings** ,1996 Homeland Security and Terrorism Russell Howard,James Forest,Joanne Moore,2006 Recommended online resources p 476 481

Revolution Or Evolution? Dalhousie University. Centre for Foreign Policy Studies,2006 **Homeland Security: Borders and points of entry** James J. F. Forest,2006 Journal of International Affairs ,2002 *Zeitschrift der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Geowissenschaften* ,2008 **World Affairs Journal** ,2000 Growth, Human Development, Social Cohesion Canada. Privy Council Office. Policy Research Committee,Jim Lahey,Alan Nymark,1996 The Policy Research Committee was created in July 1996 as part of a project to understand the policy environment over the medium term and to begin planning for the next decade The mandate of the Committee is to prepare a report on the pressure points likely to arise in Canadian society by the year 2005 as a result of economic demographic and social trends and to make recommendations regarding an interdepartmental research agenda and work program to address gaps in knowledge This interim report

presents the Committee s overview and interpretation along with suggestions on what policy makers will need to know in the future Chapter 1 reviews medium term pressure points with regard to underlying forces growth human development and social cohesion Chapters 2 12 focus on individual topics such as sustainable development the fiscal environment productivity the labour market health Aboriginal issues culture and values and regions and communities The final chapter considers options for an interdepartmental framework and process to co ordinate policy research

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