

### **Ray Pennings**

Co-Founder & Executive VP, Cardus

Cardus Forecast: Analyzing Canada's Troubled Public Square



# Cardus Forecast: Analyzing Canada's Troubled Square

Ray Pennings, Cardus Co-Founder & Executive Vice President

#### A Briefing Note elaborating on this presentation with links to all data referenced is available for download at:





## Preliminaries



(David's army) included...

"Of Issachar, men who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do,..."

1 Chronicles 12:32 (ESV)



"Cardus Forecast: Analyzing Canada's Troubled Public Square"

**FIVE QUESTIONS** 

- Is there a Canadian Identity?
- Can our institutions handle Canada's challenges?
- What external factors will affect Canada?
- What are some go-forward questions for reflection?
- The Calling and Opportunity of Christian leadership?

## Is There a Canadian Identity

"Whereas Canada is founded upon principles that recognize the supremacy of God and the rule of law..."

#### **Preamble Charter of Rights and Freedoms**

"It shall be lawful for the Queen....to make Laws for the Peace, Order and good Government of Canada...."

#### Section 91 of the Constitution Act 1867

"There is no identity, no mainstream in Canada. There are shared values.....those qualities are what makes us the first post-national state." **Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to NYTimes December 8, 2015 ELO** Network

## **Gusting Winds**

- Individual or Group?
- Changing Political Identities
- Demographic Shifts
  - Ability to Integrate Immigration
  - Faith Composition
  - Diaspora Politics



# What's Happening with Shifting Politics?

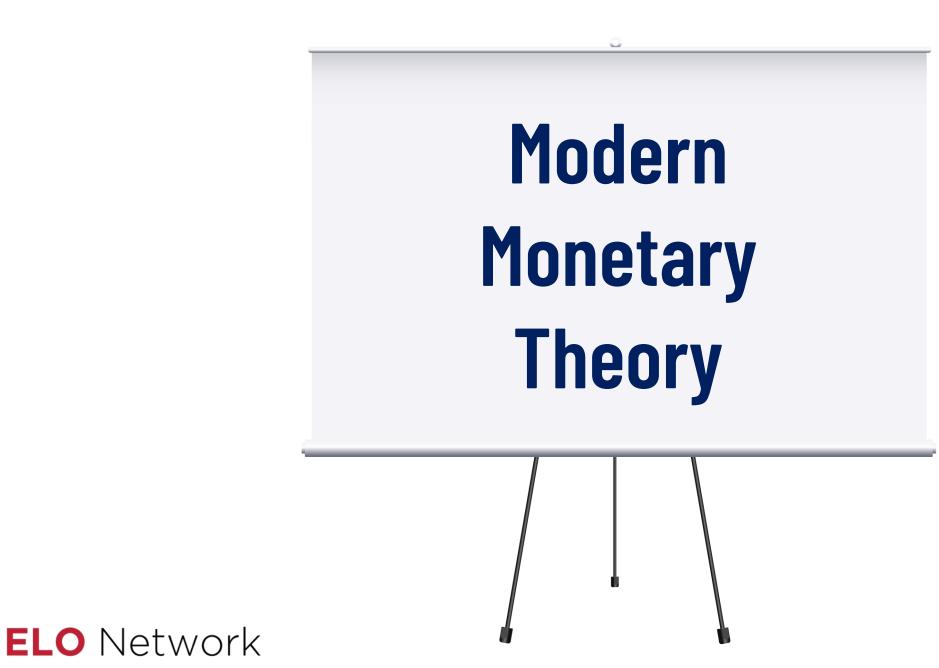
- The right-left divide
- The regional divide
- The demographic divide



## Are our Institutions up to the Job?







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- Challenge of K-12 Education
- Challenge of Post-Secondary
- Challenge of Work Readiness



## **External Factors to Pay Attention To**



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# Finding the Right Metaphor

- Strangers / Exiles
- Remnant
- Pilgrims
- Soldiers
- Ambassadors



## Go Forward Questions for Reflection

- Focus on the Basics
- Rediscover Solidarity
- Dream Big
- Manage the Pendulum Swings
- Model Christian Leadership



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"...the first responsibility of a leader is to define reality. The last is to say thank you. In between, the leader is a servant."

#### **Max DePree**

Leadership is an Art



# Thank you

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