Transforming Today for Tomorrow: Lessons for Your Community

Wayne Caldwell
University of Guelph

Ontario West Municipal Conference

www.waynecaldwell.ca

December, 2010

Reflections on Yesterday
Are you up for a quiz?
10 simple questions…

Question 1:

The Golden Rule
Treat others as we would want to be treated.
The Platinum Rule
?????

Question 2:
This House connected into the grid…

a) Cost the owner $245 for a years hydro
b) Produced a $2000 surplus
c) Broke even..

Question 3:

To sustain our population “naturally” we require a birth rate of 2.1 children / woman in her child bearing years…

True or False?

Question 4:
Our actual birthrate in Canada is 2.2 births/ woman

True or False?

Question 5: This map is a picture of…

a) The SWEA 15 County Zone

b) The limits of the Emerald Ash Borer

d) The new Province of Southwestern Ontario

Question 6:
Social Media is here to stay?

True or False?

Question 7:
In 2007

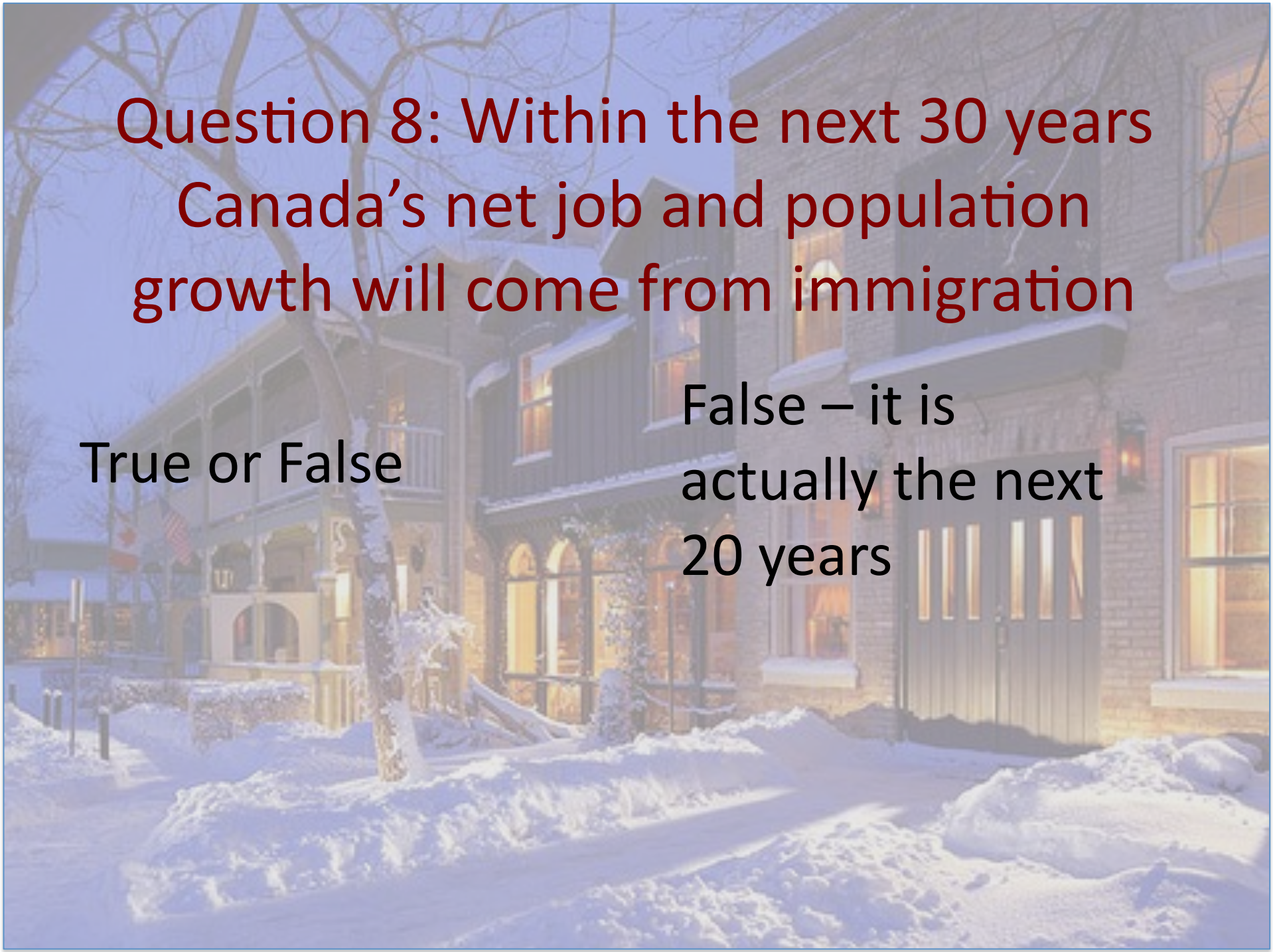
…50% of all immigrants identified the GTA as their destination

True or False?

Ontario Intended Destination	2007
Toronto Division	50,879
Peel Regional Municipality	22,420
York Regional Municipality	10,431
Ottawa Division	5,773
Hamilton Division	2,852
Waterloo Regional Municipality	3,224
Essex County	2,377
Middlesex County	2,409
Halton Regional Municipality	2,622
Durham Regional Municipality	2,181
Top 10 Destination Total	**105,168**
GTA Total	**88,533**
Rest of Ontario Total	5,959
Total Landings to Ontario	**111,127**

- In 2007, 80% of immigrants landing in Ontario identified the GTA as their destination.

FALSE



Question 8: Within the next 30 years Canada's net job and population growth will come from immigration

True or False

False – it is actually the next 20 years

Question 9: The largest farms (grossing more than $250,000) comprise 17% of all farms in Canada. What percentage of farm sales do they generate?

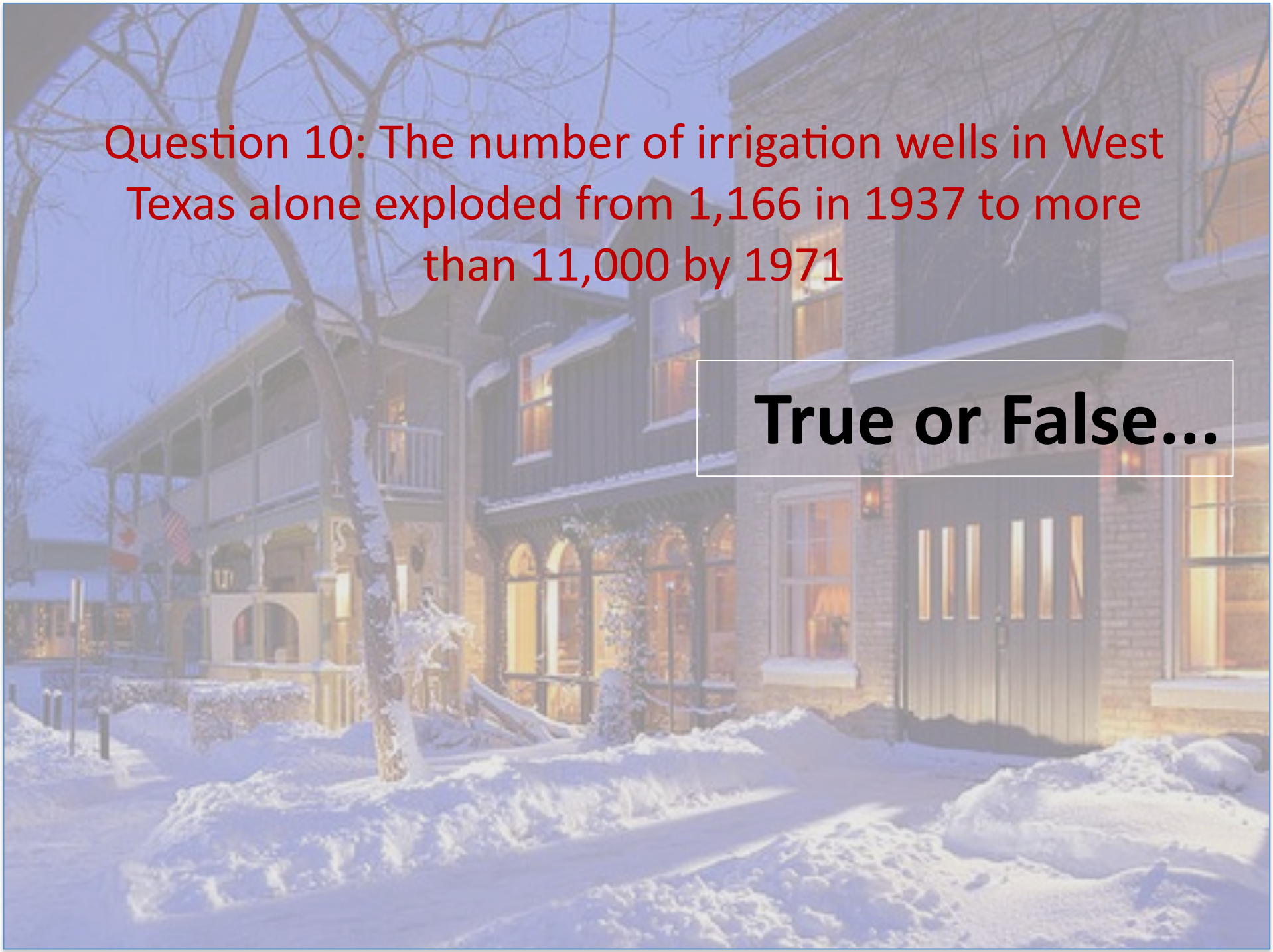
a) 38%

b) 52%

c) 75%

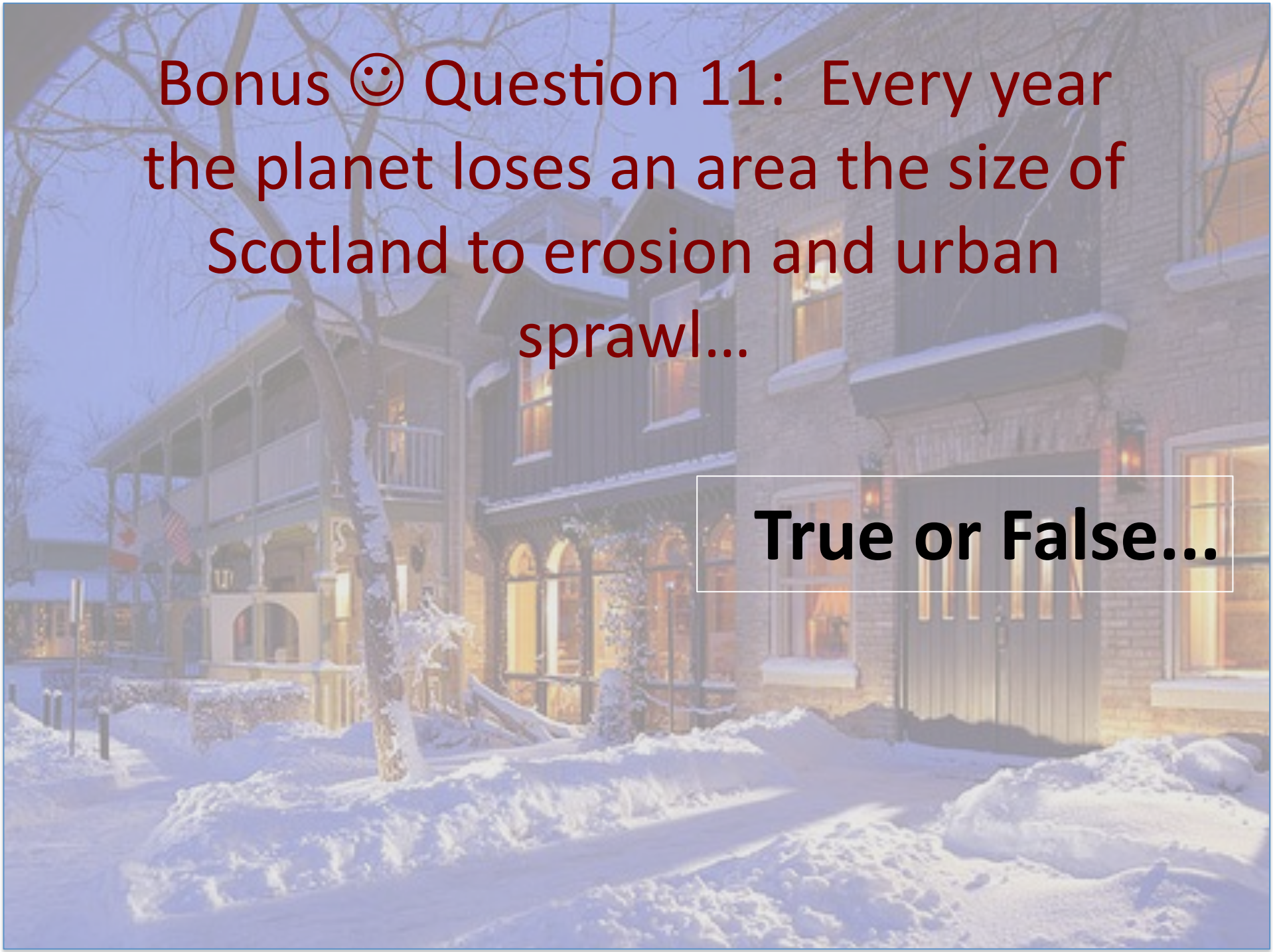
c) 75%

In other words, while approximately 2% of the population is farm - approximately 1 in 6 farmers produces 75% of farm sales (approximately 1 in 300 Canadians)


Question 10: The number of irrigation wells in West Texas alone exploded from 1,166 in 1937 to more than 11,000 by 1971
True or False...

False… the actual # was 66,000

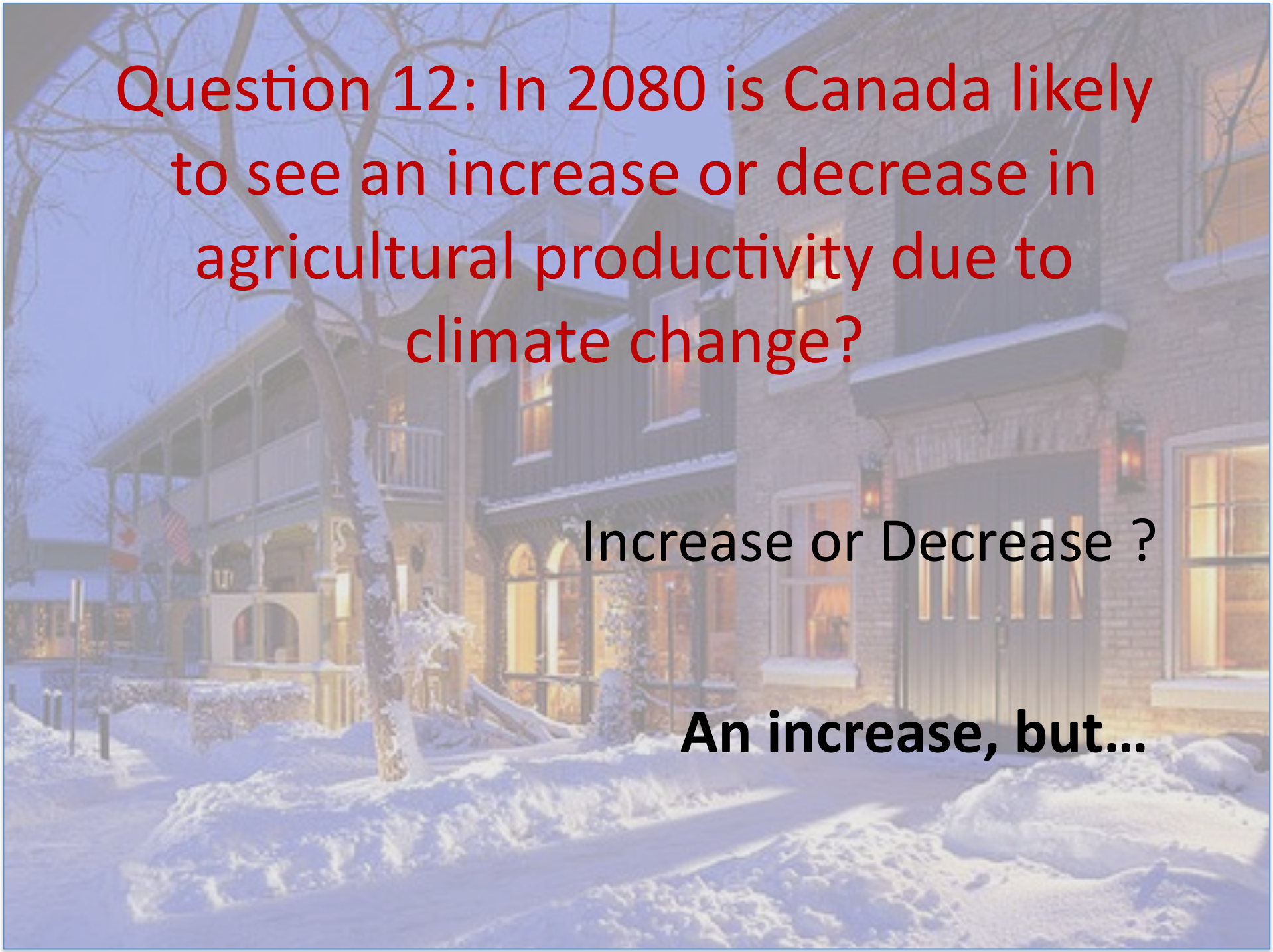
- Much production from the American southwest is dependent on irrigation from aquifers. It is reported that Groundwater levels in Garden City Kansas dropped 150 feet or more, forcing many farmers to abandon their wells….



Bonus ☺ Question 11: Every year the planet loses an area the size of Scotland to erosion and urban sprawl…

True or False…

True, and at the same time the worlds population increases by more than 70 million people (74.6 million in 2009)



Question 12: In 2080 is Canada likely to see an increase or decrease in agricultural productivity due to climate change?

Increase or Decrease ?

An increase, but…

How did you score?

What trends/issues do you think may fundamentally change your community?
(feel free to think long-term)

Seven trends that can (will?) change our world…

- **Climate Change**
- **Peak Oil**
- **Population Growth and Food Security**
- No Growth Scenarios
- Loss of Biodiversity
- The Global Economy and Political Instability
- **Demographic Change**

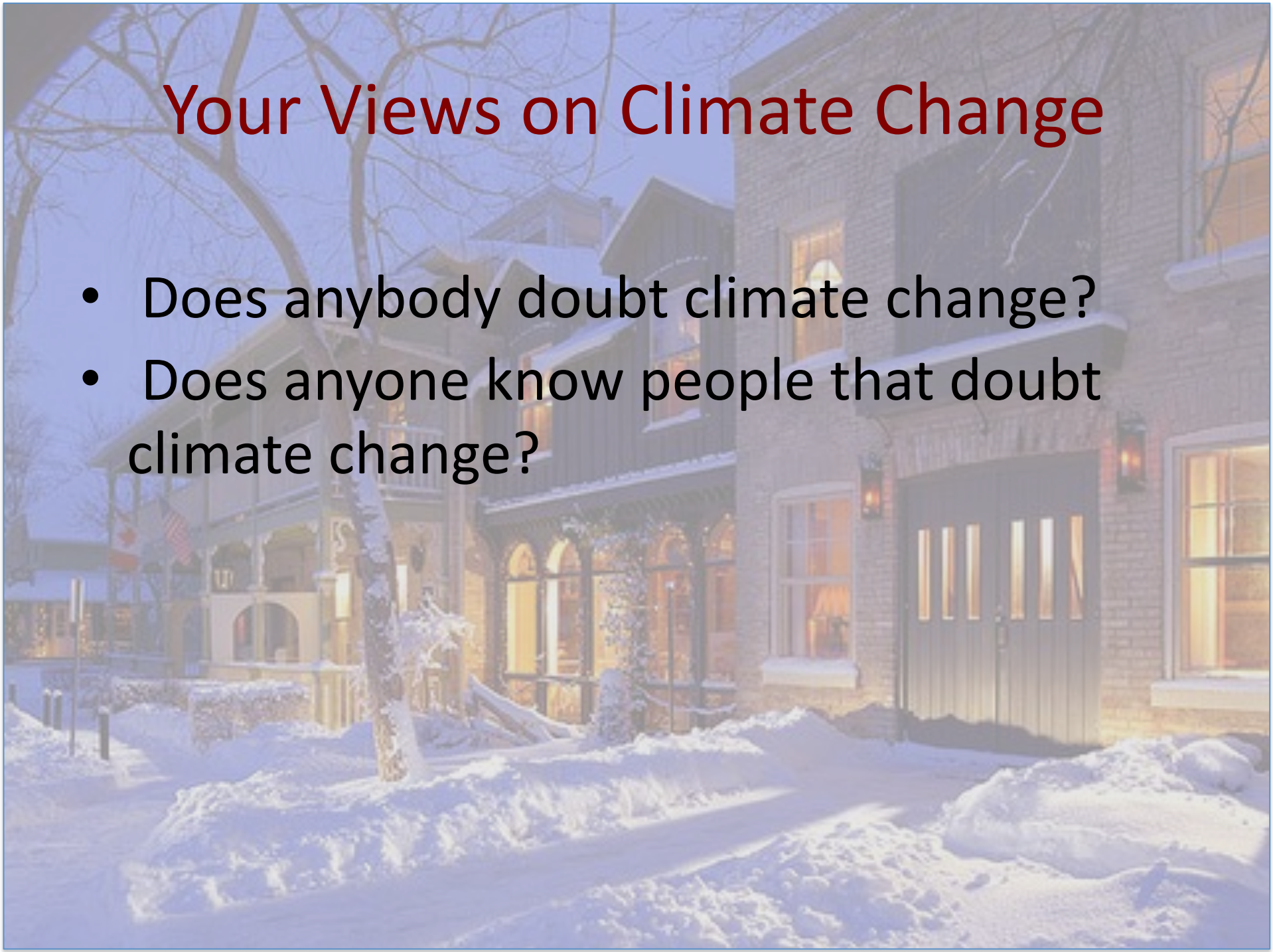
Seven trends that can (will?) change our world…

Reflecting upon this…. The need to:

- bring a global perspective to local issues
- position ourselves for change
- develop a long-term perspective
- make increasingly tough decisions
- think about the 3 pillars of sustainability economic, environmental and social issues

Why this is important:
Imagine ….

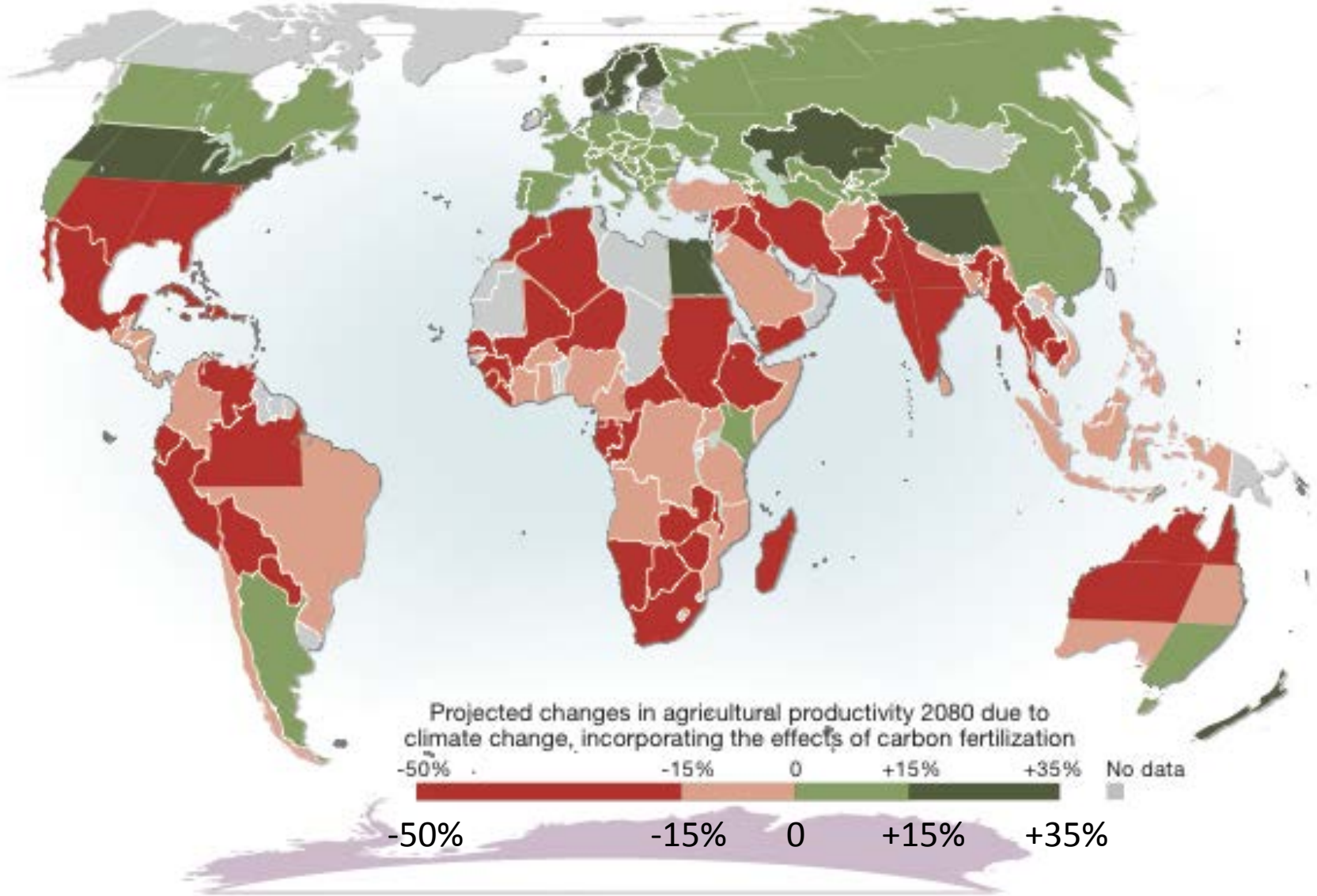
Climate Change



Your Views on Climate Change

- Does anybody doubt climate change?
- Does anyone know people that doubt climate change?

Climate Change (and Water)



Southwestern Ontario – Agriculture

Challenges

- Less rainfall – more irrigation?
- Drought-prone soils –impact on shallow-rooted crops?
- Milder winters and less snow – increase damage to overwintering crops?

Opportunities

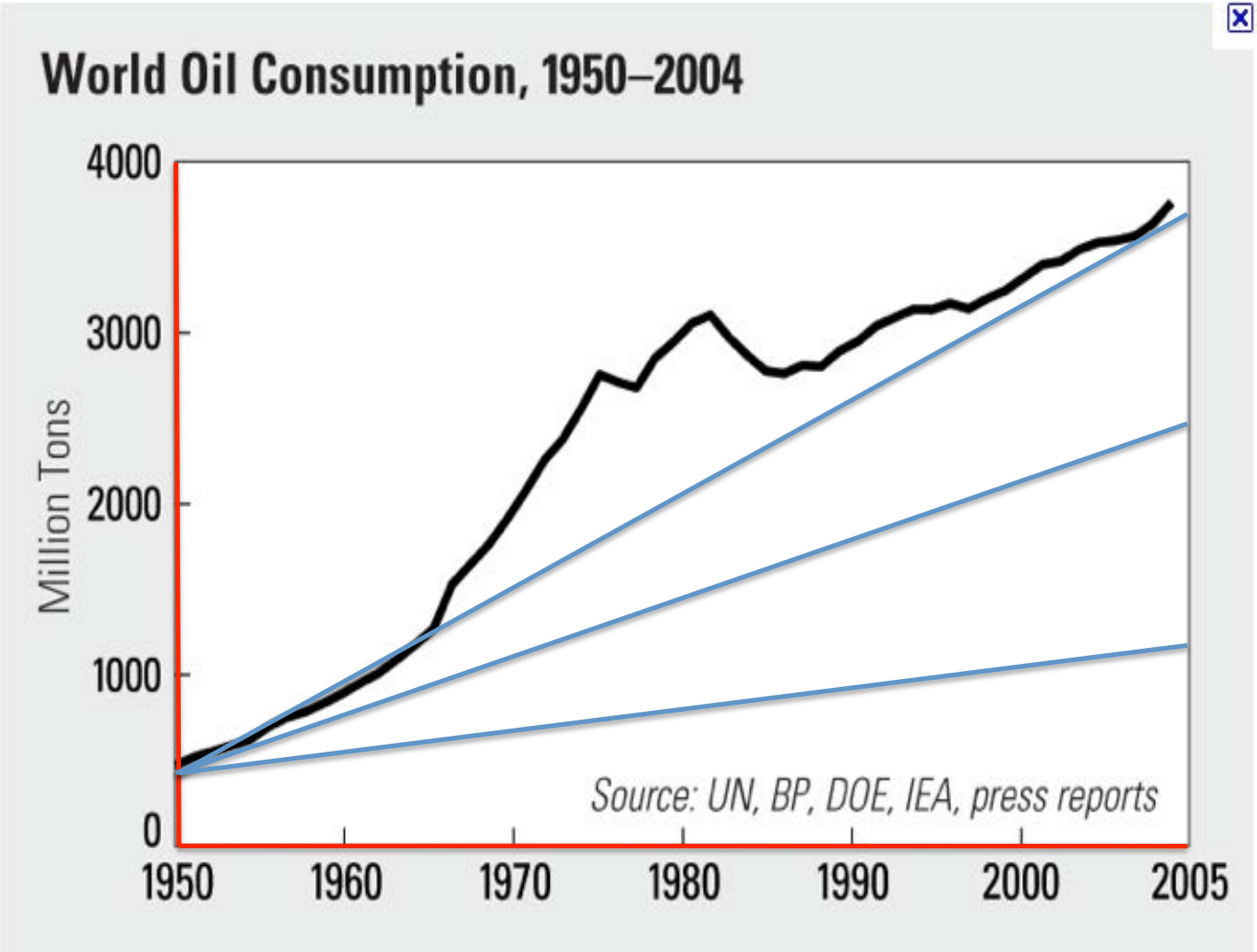
- Warmer temperatures, earlier and longer frost-free period
  - Extend grazing season
  - Increase yield for heat-loving crops
  - Potential for cultivation of crops farther north
  - Potential for specialty fruits and vegetables

And remember the consequences beyond agriculture…

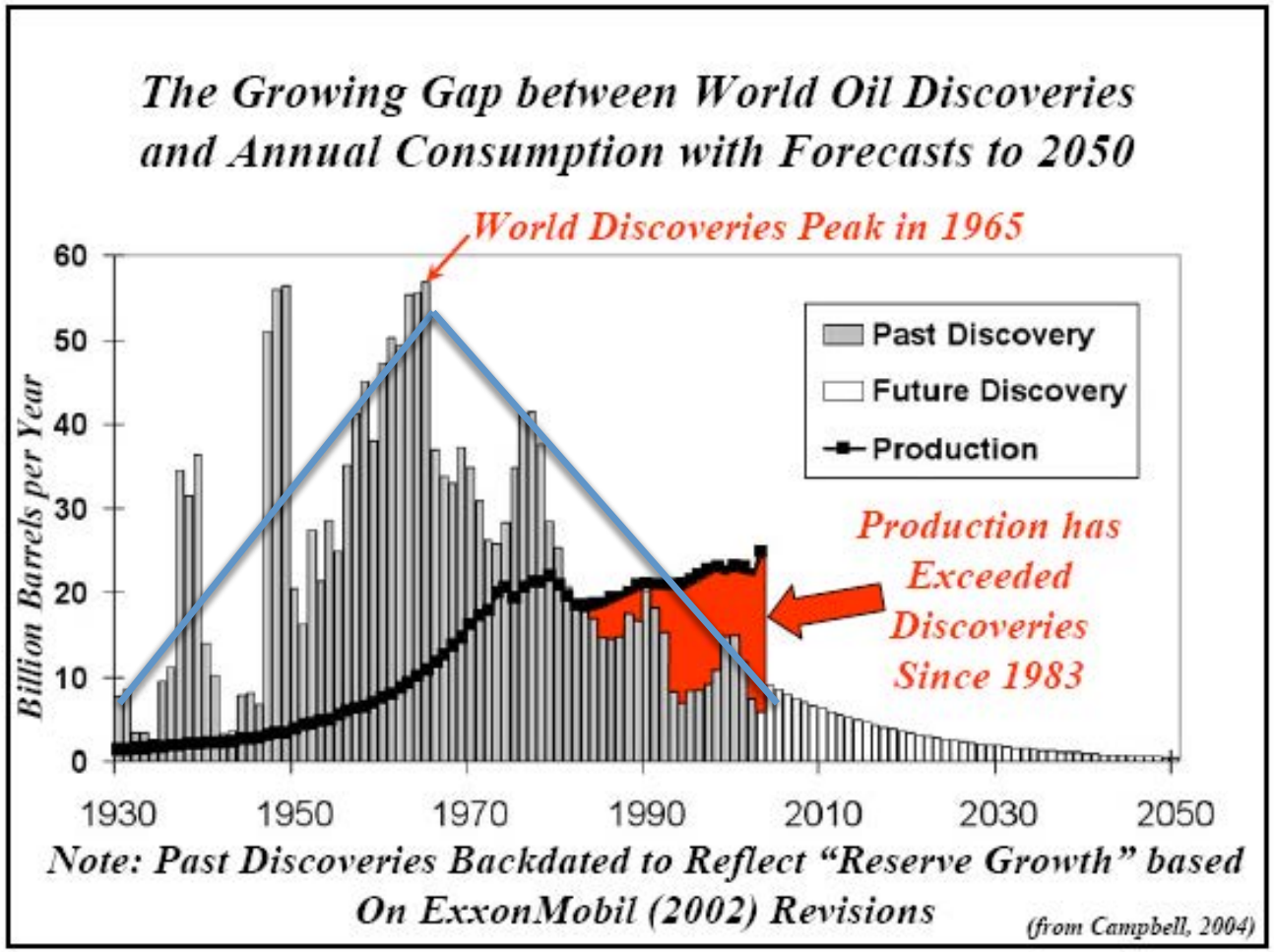
Peak Oil
Your Views on
"Increasing Energy Prices"

- Are you familiar with the term "Peak Oil"?
- Some details…

Which of these lines do you think represents Global Oil Consumption (1950-2004)

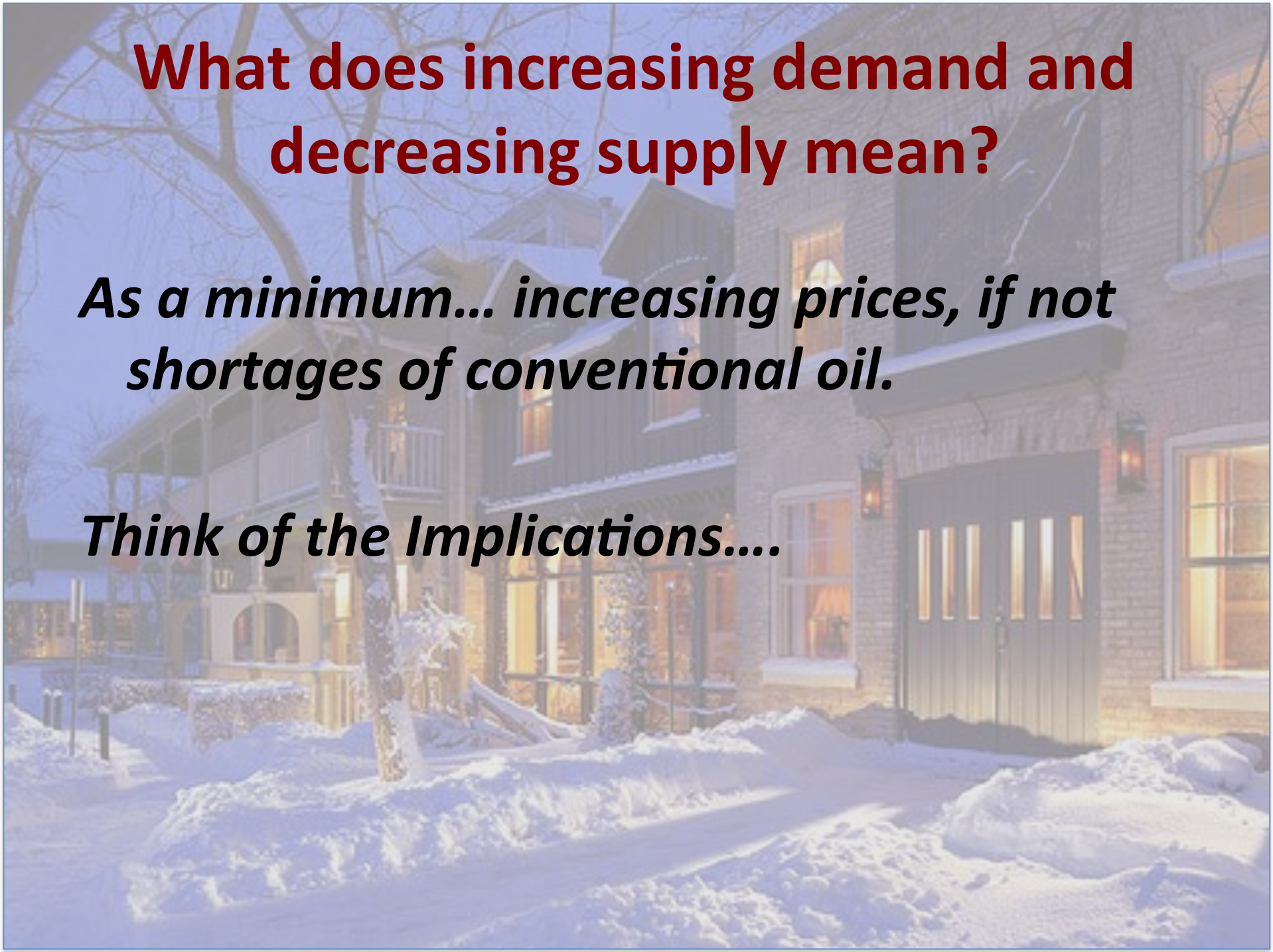


Which of these lines do you think represents Global Annual Oil Discoveries(1930-2005)?



Your Views on Increasing Oil Prices (Peak Oil)

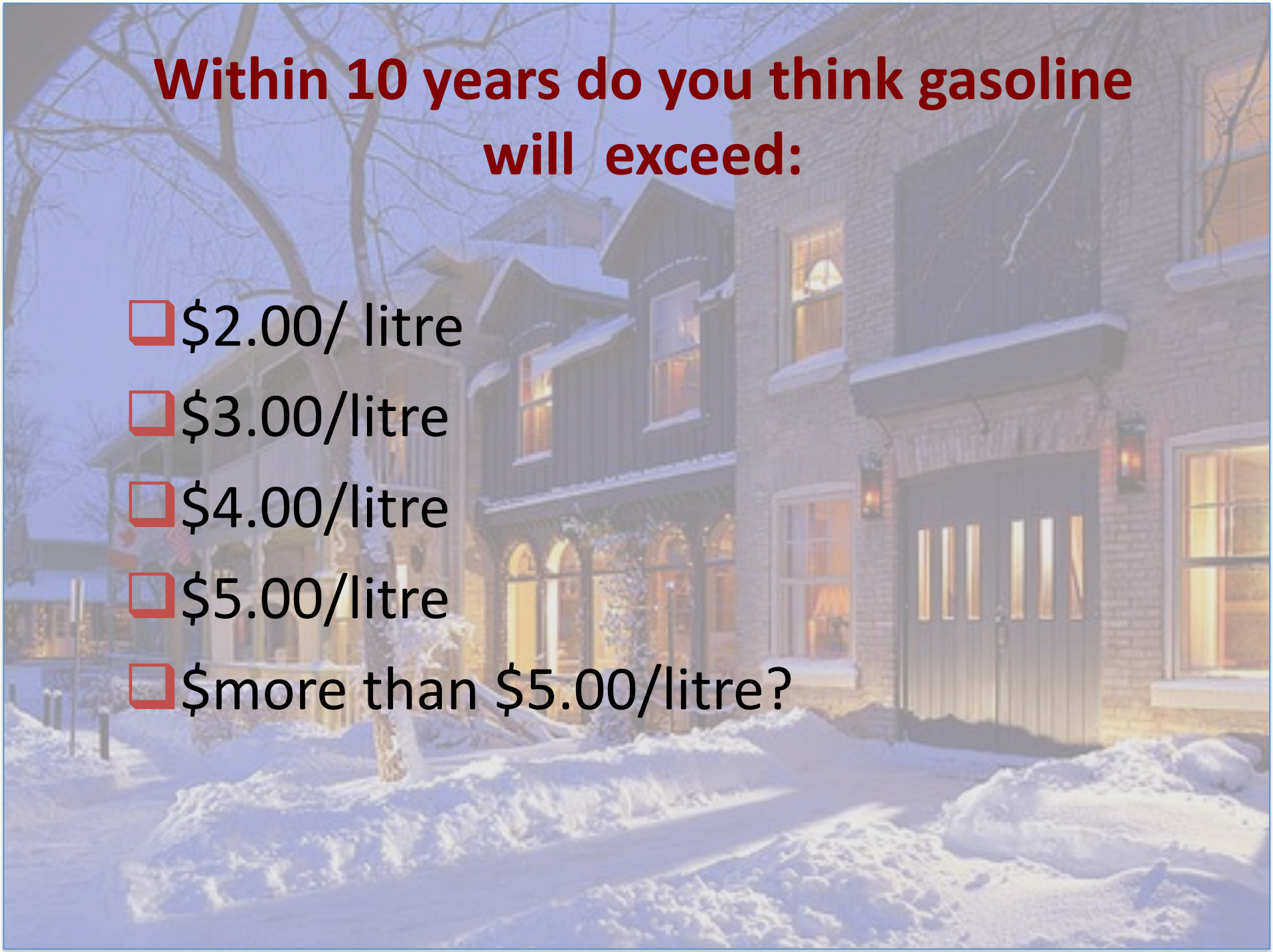
- Does anybody doubt peak oil?
- Does anyone know people that doubt peak oil?



What does increasing demand and decreasing supply mean?

As a minimum… increasing prices, if not shortages of conventional oil.

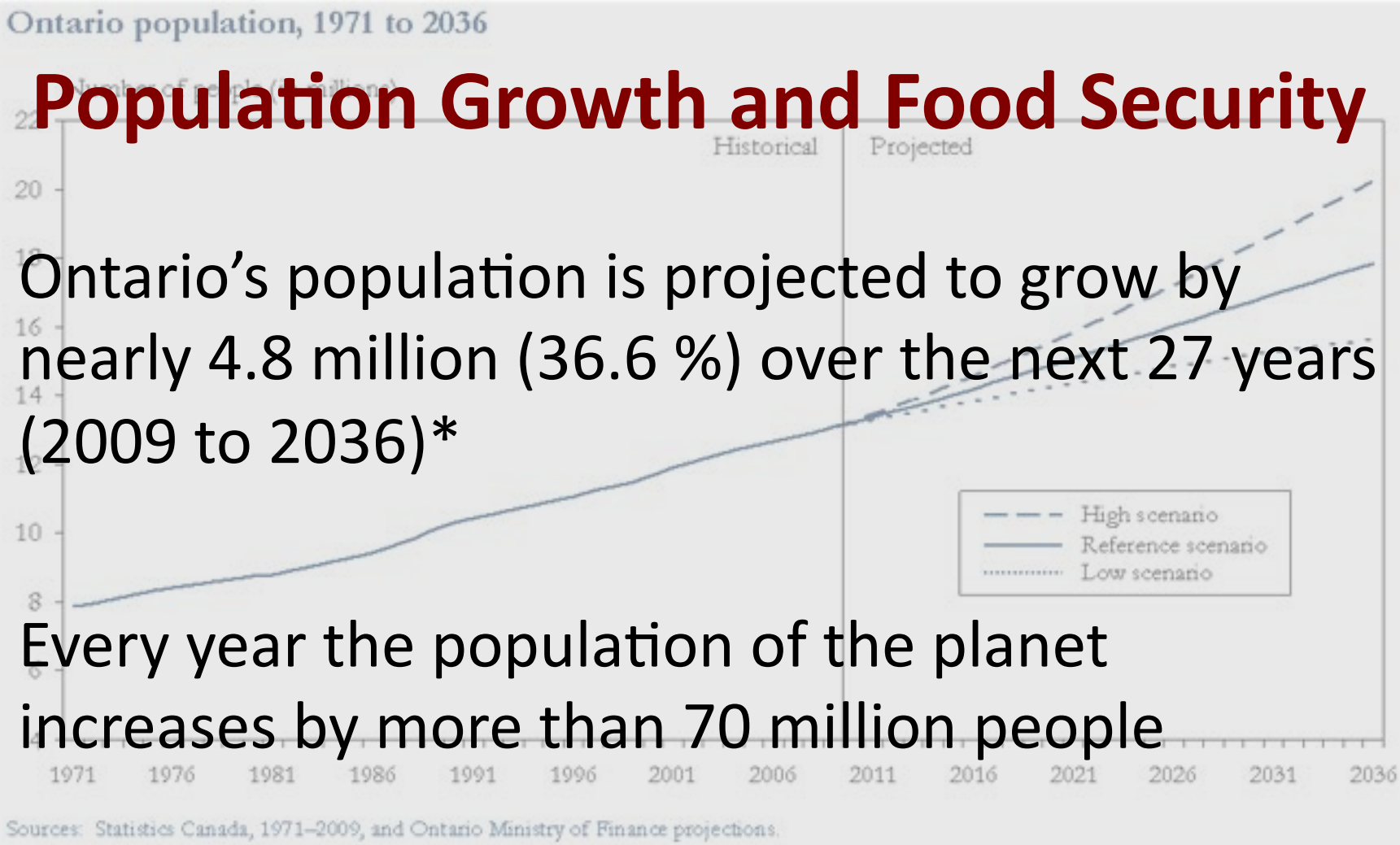
Think of the Implications….



Within 10 years do you think gasoline will exceed:

- $2.00/ litre
- $3.00/litre
- $4.00/litre
- $5.00/litre
- $more than $5.00/litre?

Population Growth and Food Security



Ontario's population is projected to grow by nearly 4.8 million (36.6 %) over the next 27 years (2009 to 2036)*

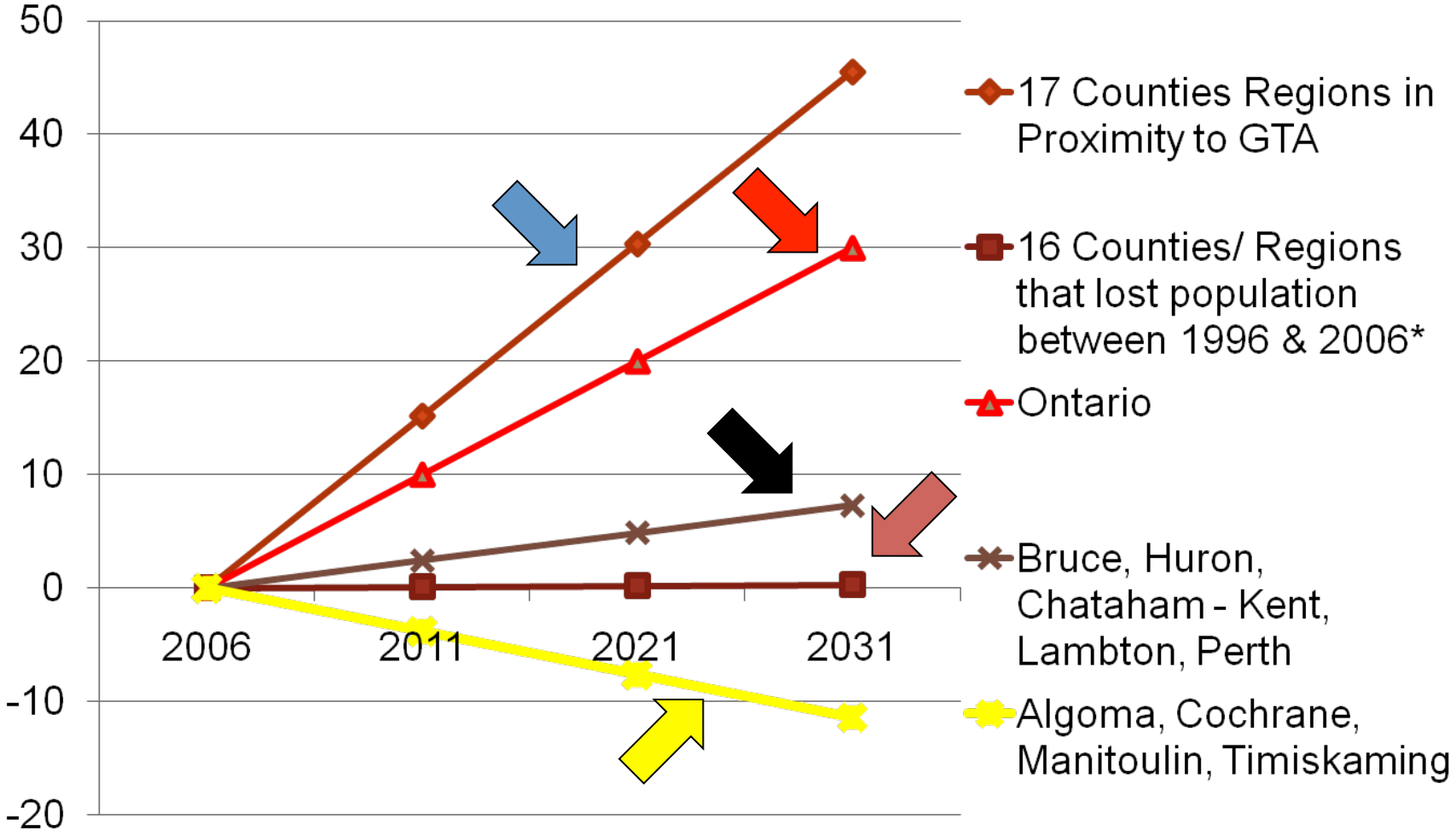
Every year the population of the planet increases by more than 70 million people

* Ontario Ministry of Finance

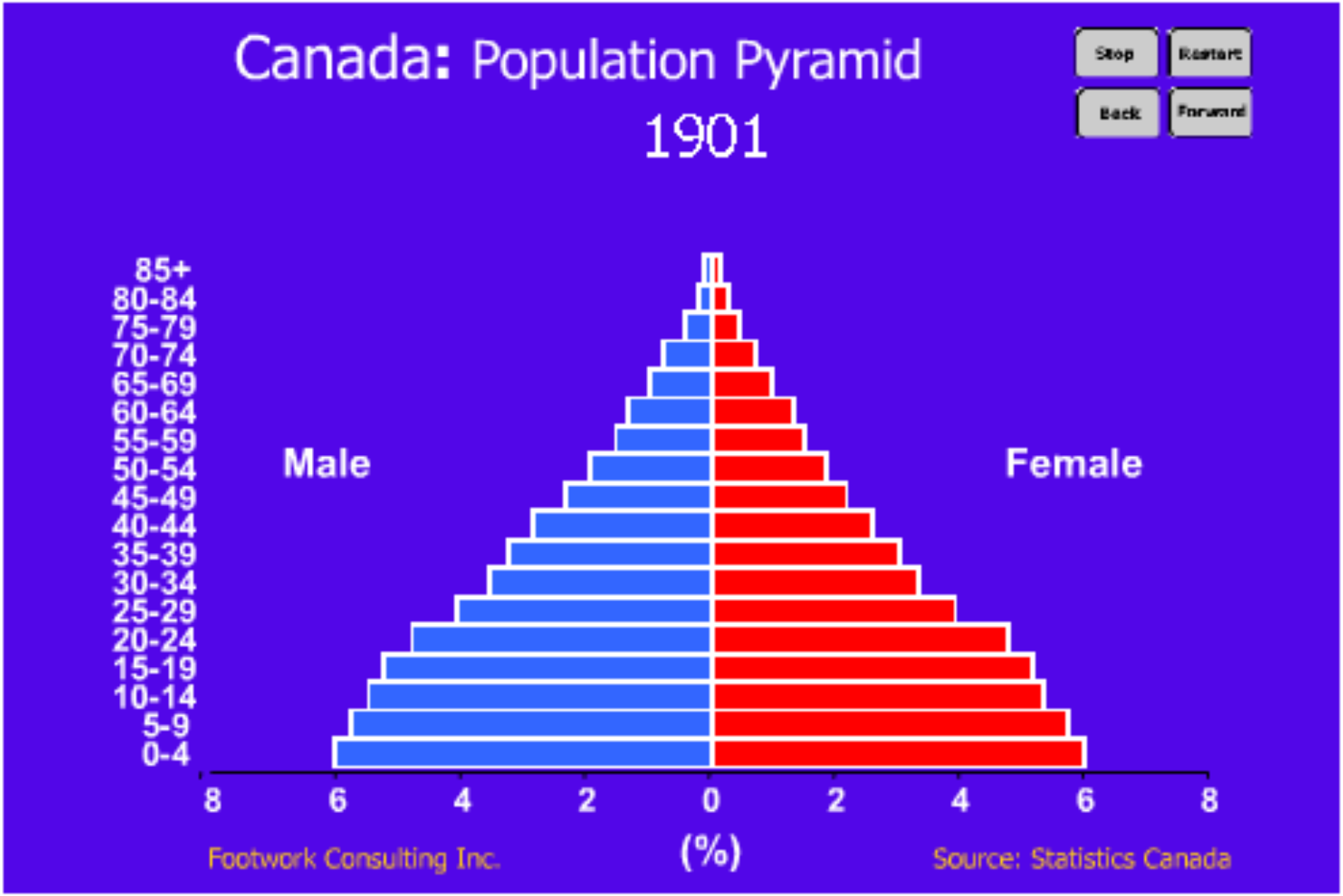
Demographic Change
Ontario Provincial Population Forecasts
(2009 vs. 2031)

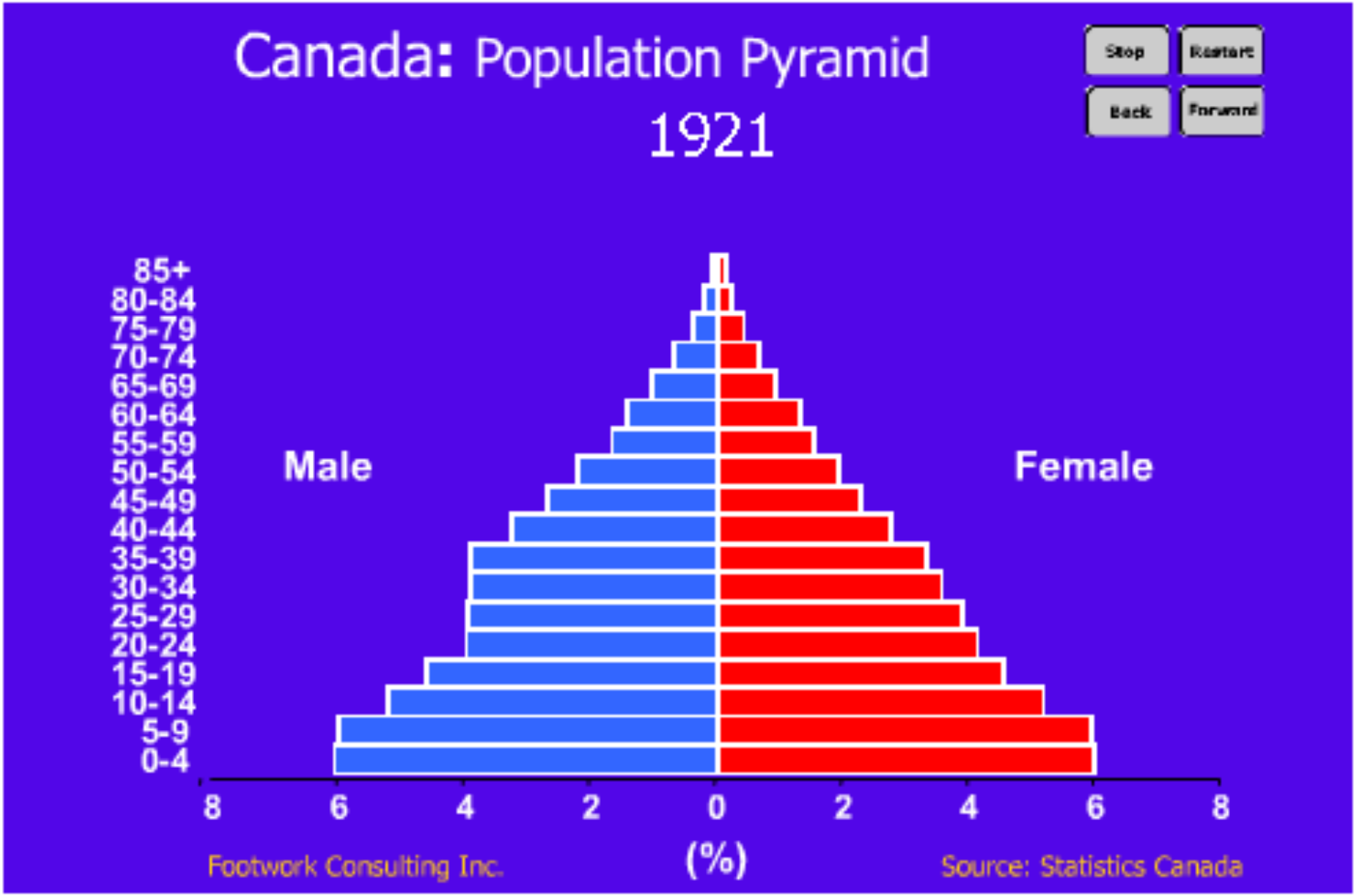
	2009-2010	2030-3031
Total Population	13,062,800	16,721,000
Births	140,400	175,400
Deaths	90,600	123,300
Natural growth	49,800	52,100
Net Migration	81,500	132,500
Migration as % of Prov. growth	62%	72%

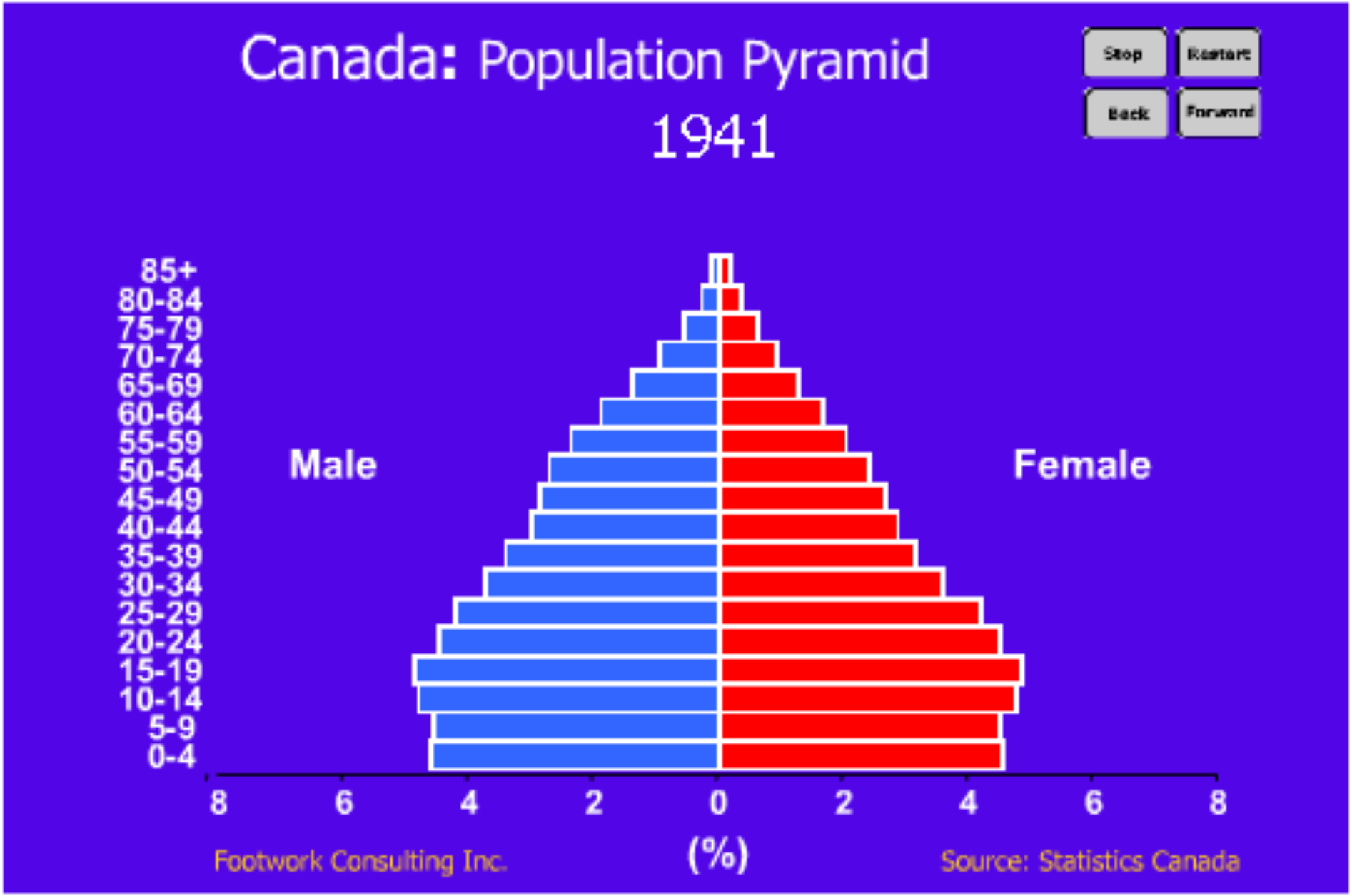
Forecasted Population Growth in Ontario (%2006-2031)

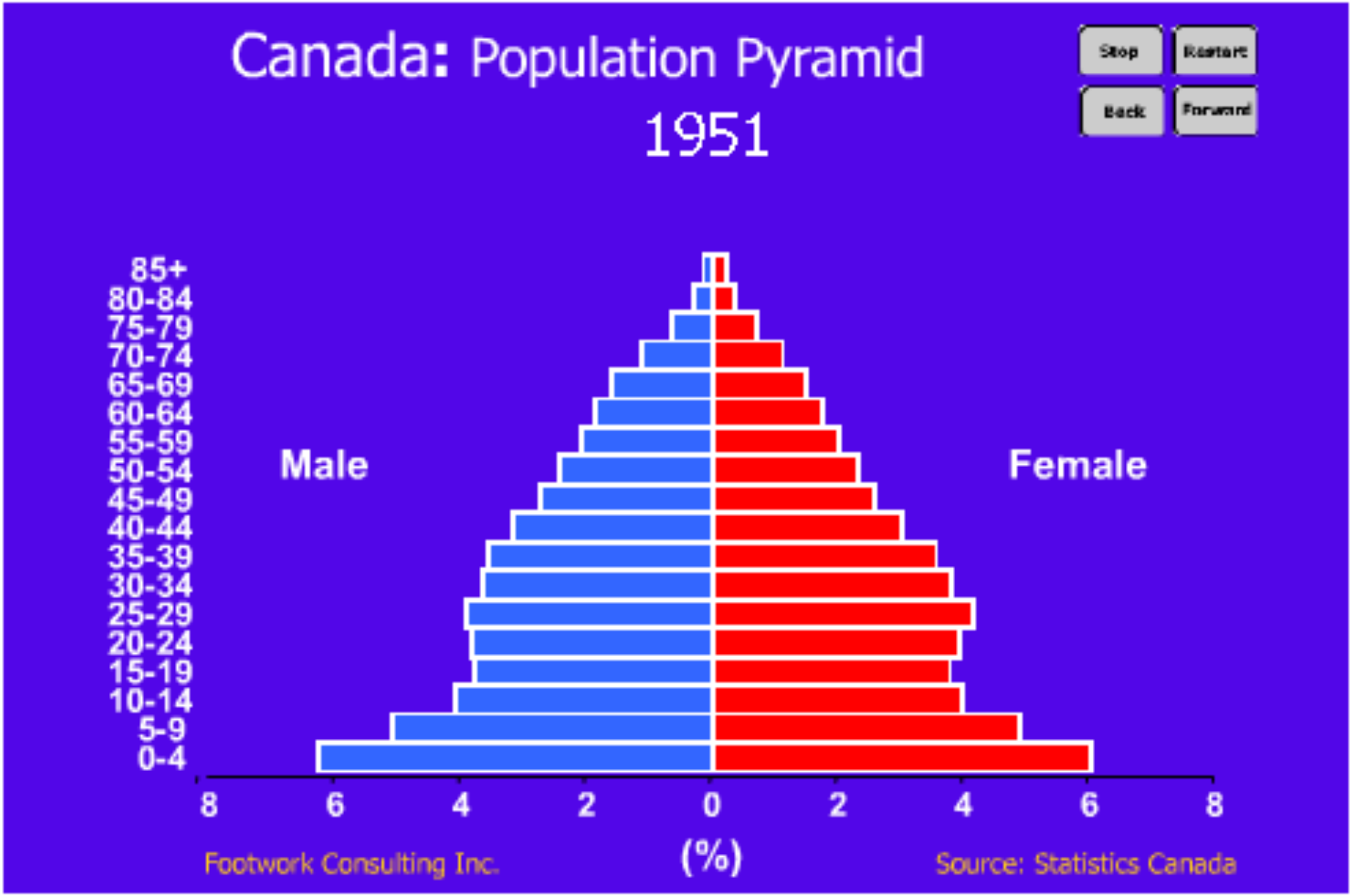


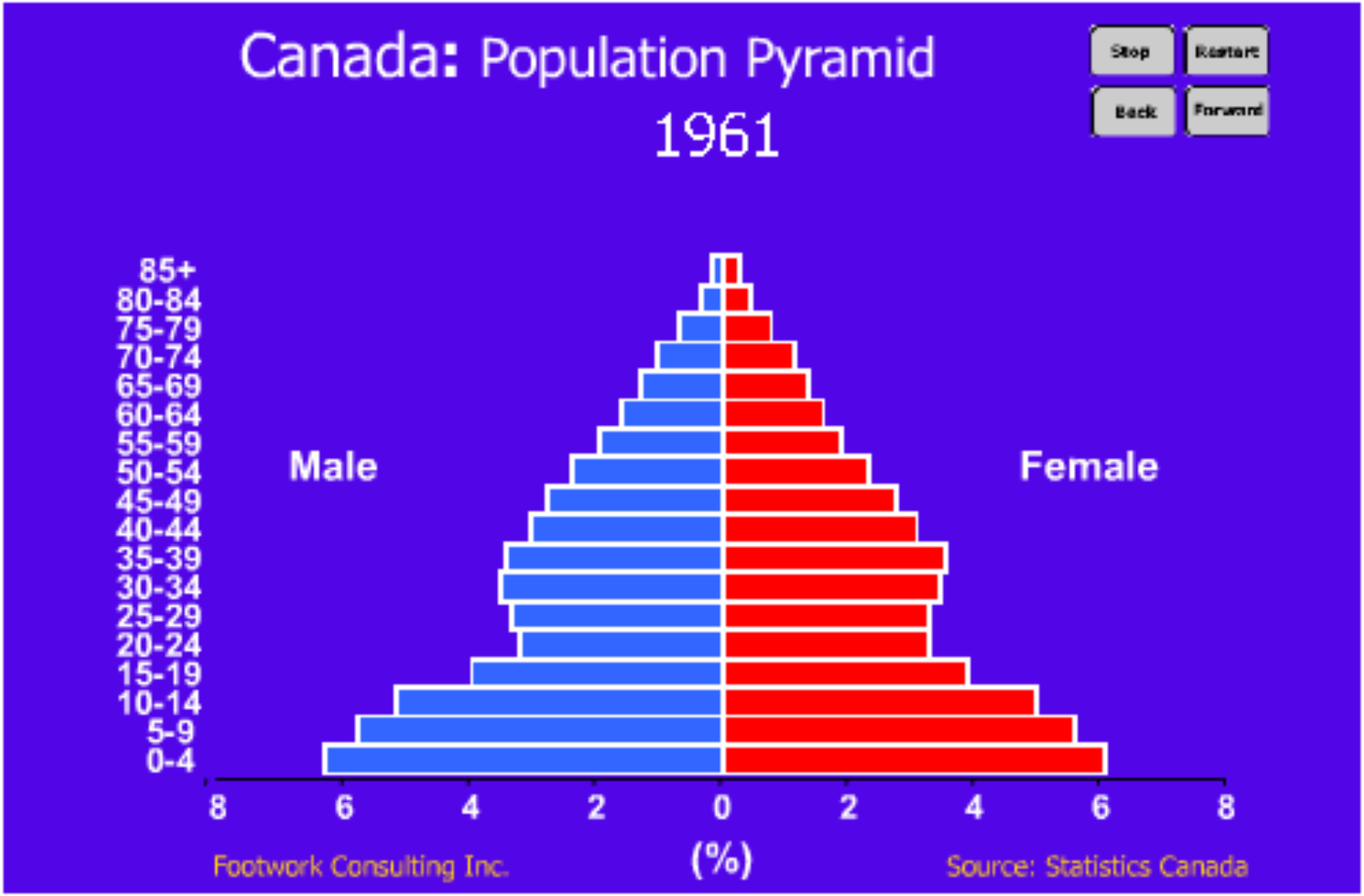
* Prince Edward, Renfrew, Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, Bruce, Huron, Chatham-Kent, Lambton, Algoma, Cochrane, Nipissing, Greater Sudbury, Timiskaming, Kenora, Rainy River and Thunder Bay

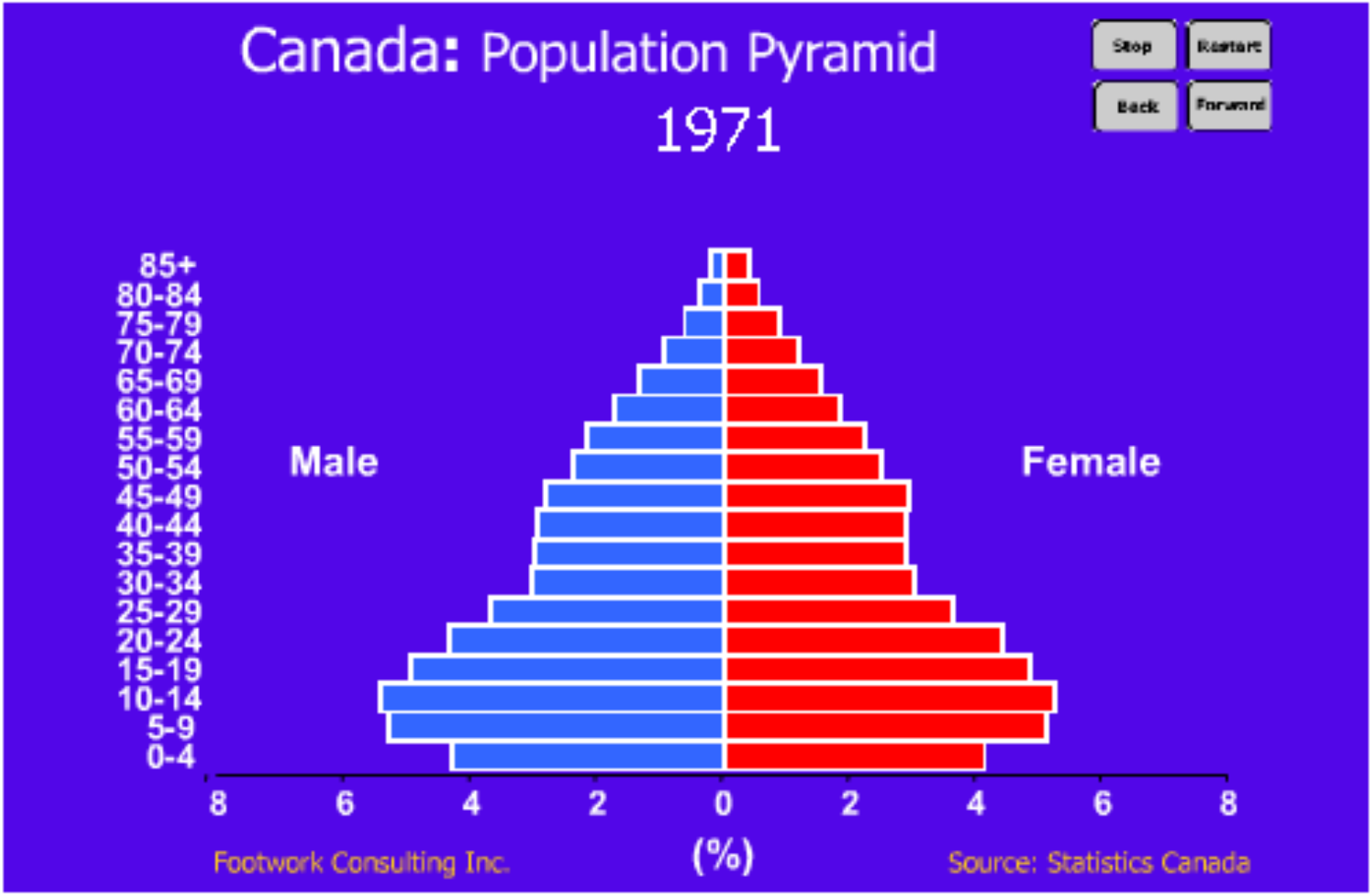

Canada: Population Pyramid
1901
Stop
Restart
Back
Forward
85+
80-84
75-79
70-74
65-69
60-64
55-59
50-54
45-49
40-44
35-39
30-34
25-29
20-24
15-19
10-14
5-9
0-4
Male
Female
8
6
4
2
0
2
4
6
8
(%)
Footwork Consulting Inc.
Source: Statistics Canada

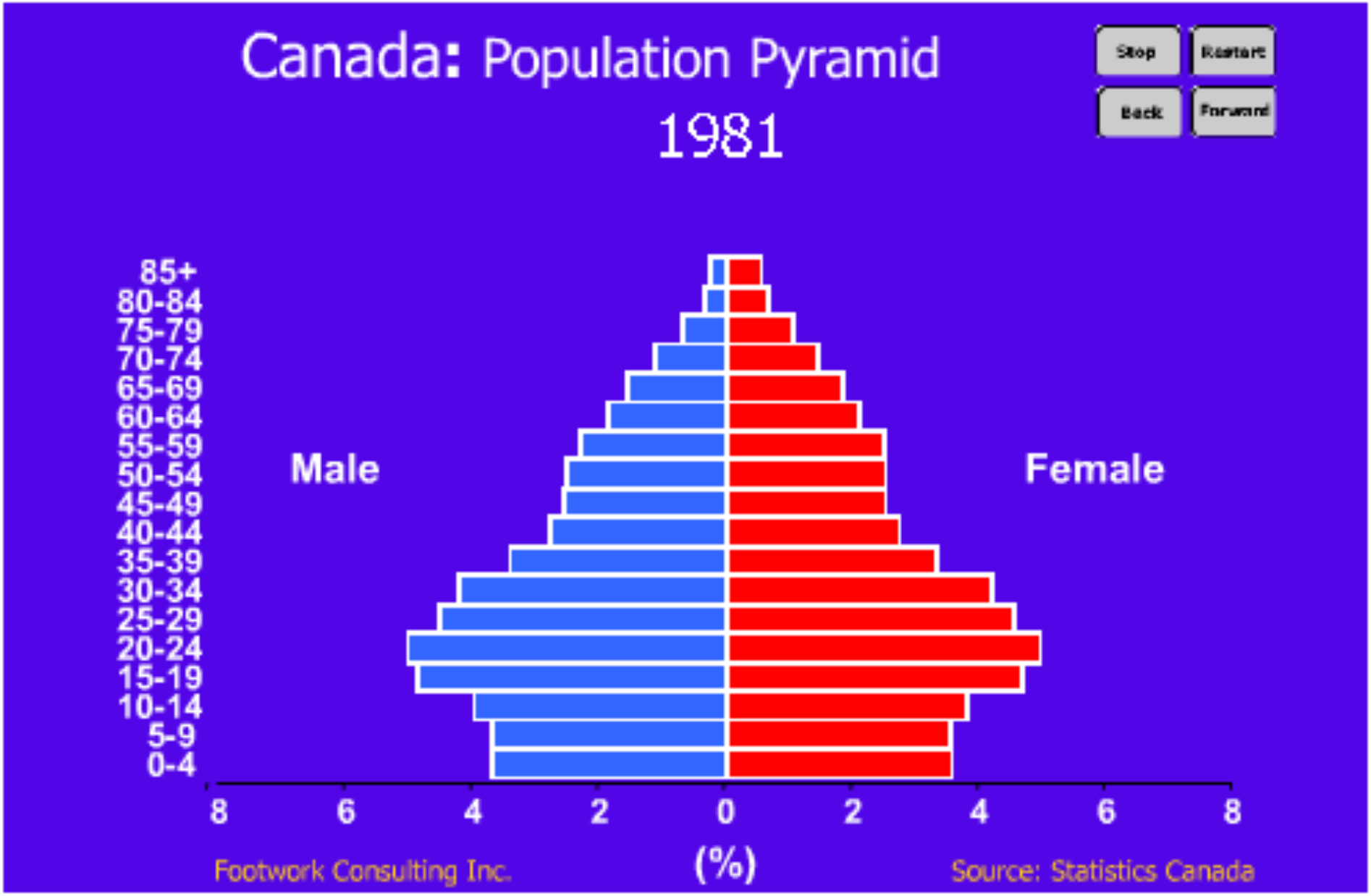

Canada: Population Pyramid
1921
Stop
Restart
Back
Forward
85+
80-84
75-79
70-74
65-69
60-64
55-59
50-54
45-49
40-44
35-39
30-34
25-29
20-24
15-19
10-14
5-9
0-4
Male
Female
8
6
4
2
0
2
4
6
8
(%)
Footwork Consulting Inc.
Source: Statistics Canada

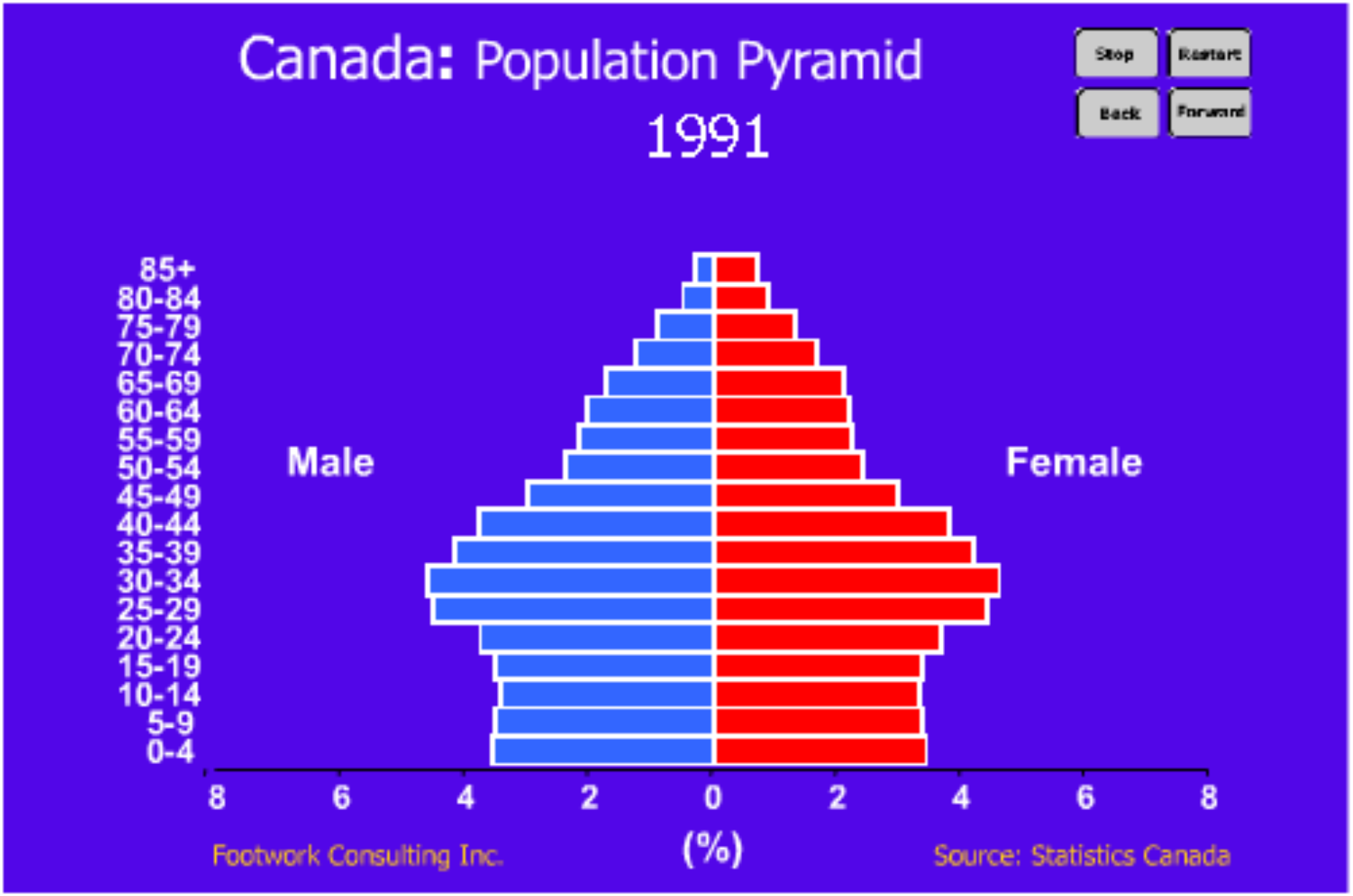

Canada: Population Pyramid
1941
Stop
Restart
Back
Forward
85+
80-84
75-79
70-74
65-69
60-64
55-59
50-54
45-49
40-44
35-39
30-34
25-29
20-24
15-19
10-14
5-9
0-4
Male
Female
8
6
4
2
0
2
4
6
8
(%)
Footwork Consulting Inc.
Source: Statistics Canada

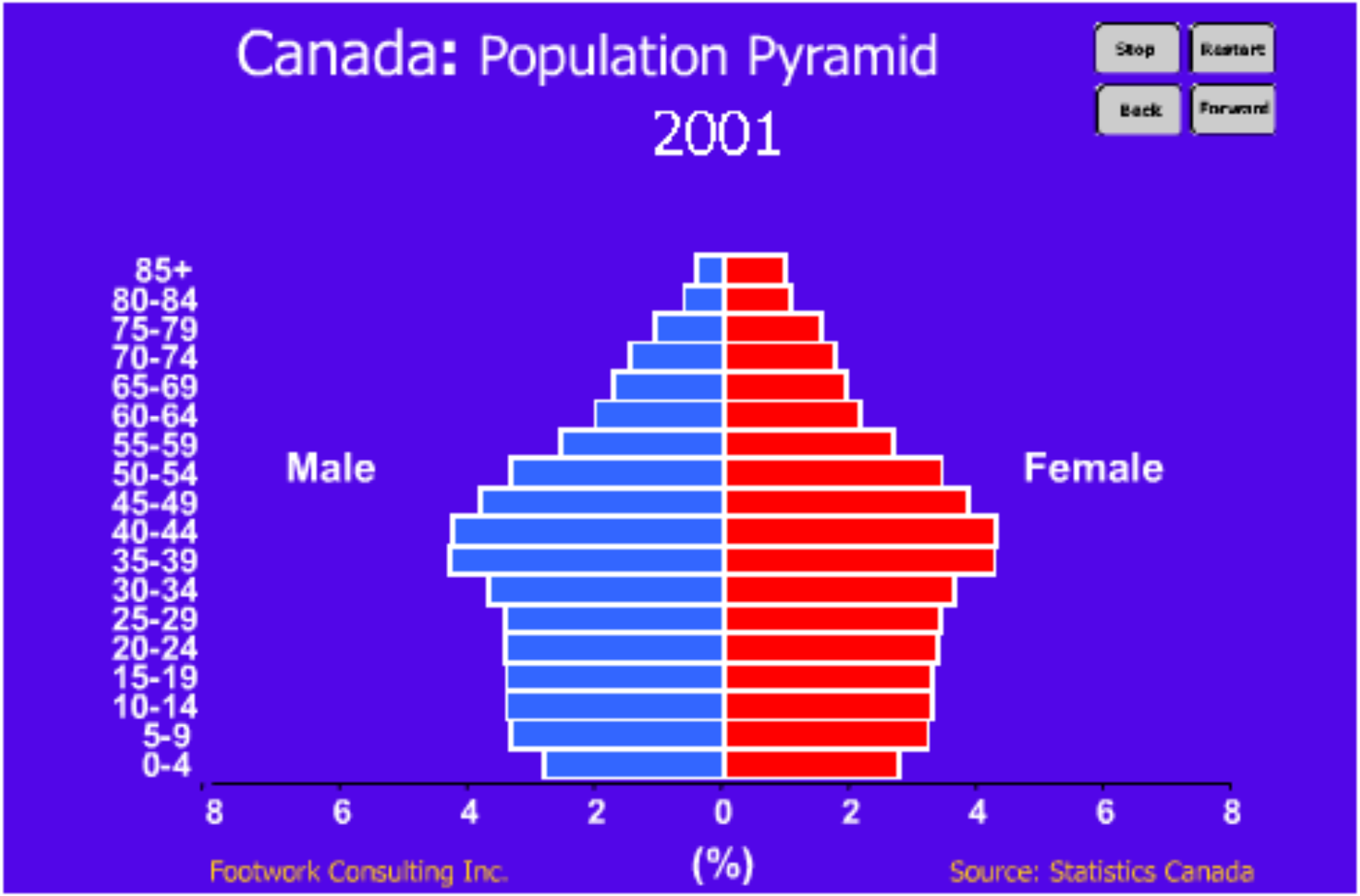

Canada: Population Pyramid
1951
Stop
Restart
Back
Forward
85+
80-84
75-79
70-74
65-69
60-64
55-59
50-54
45-49
40-44
35-39
30-34
25-29
20-24
15-19
10-14
5-9
0-4
Male
Female
8
6
4
2
0
2
4
6
8
(%)
Footwork Consulting Inc.
Source: Statistics Canada

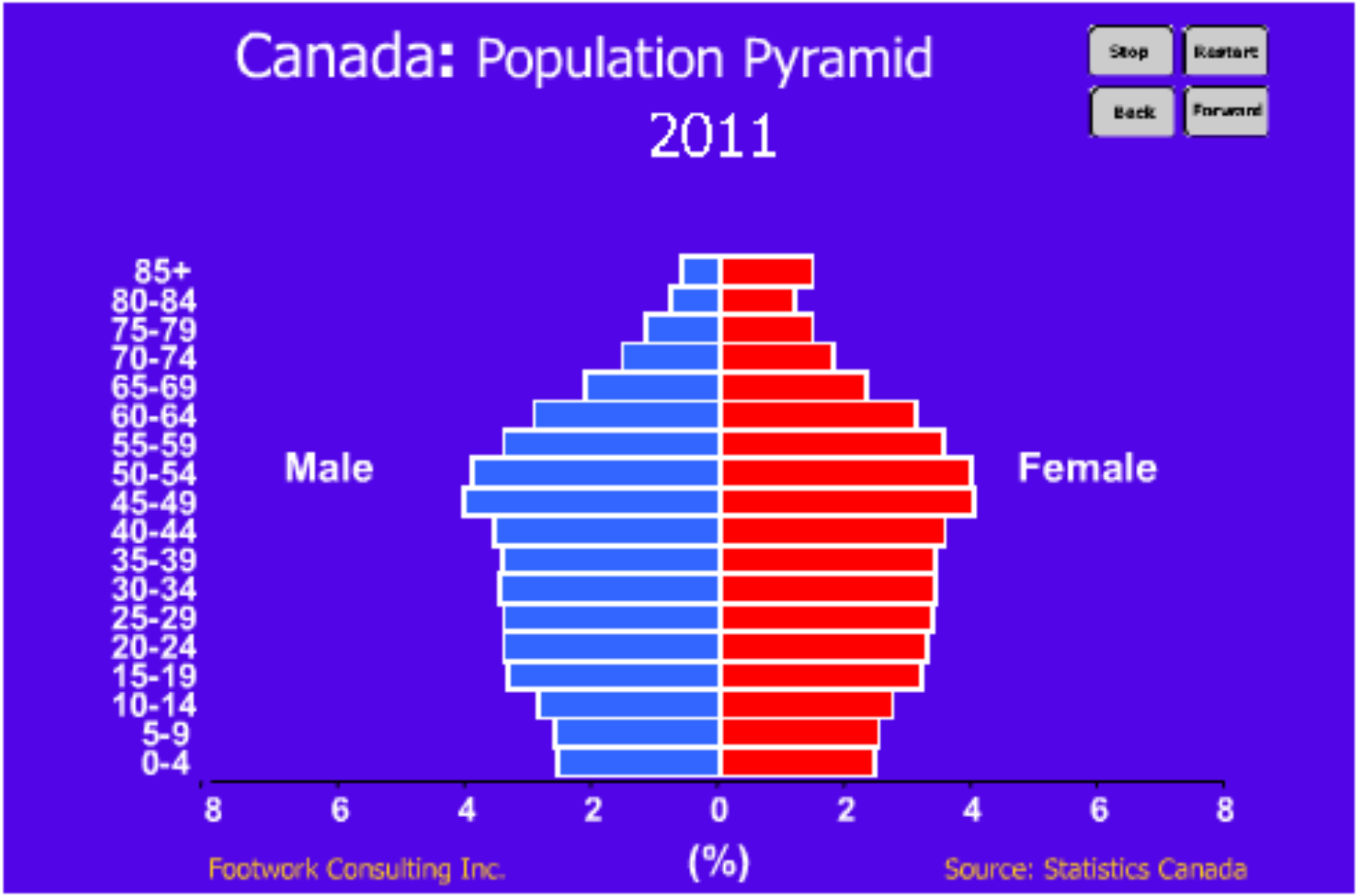

Canada: Population Pyramid
1961
Stop
Restart
Back
Forward
85+
80-84
75-79
70-74
65-69
60-64
55-59
50-54
45-49
40-44
35-39
30-34
25-29
20-24
15-19
10-14
5-9
0-4
Male
Female
8
6
4
2
0
2
4
6
8
(%)
Footwork Consulting Inc.
Source: Statistics Canada

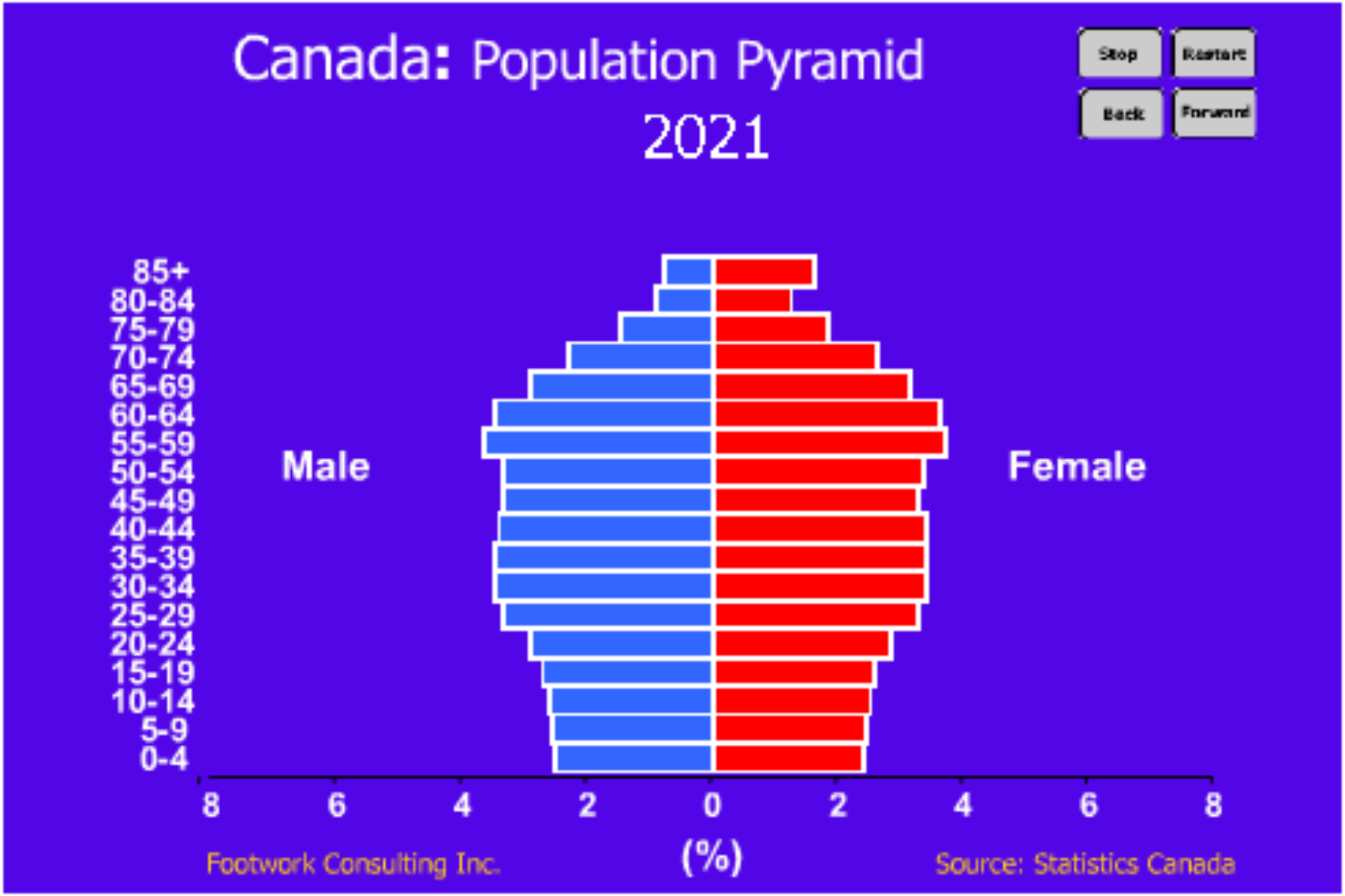

Canada: Population Pyramid
1971
Stop
Restart
Back
Forward
85+
80-84
75-79
70-74
65-69
60-64
55-59
50-54
45-49
40-44
35-39
30-34
25-29
20-24
15-19
10-14
5-9
0-4
Male
Female
8
6
4
2
0
2
4
6
8
(%)
Footwork Consulting Inc.
Source: Statistics Canada

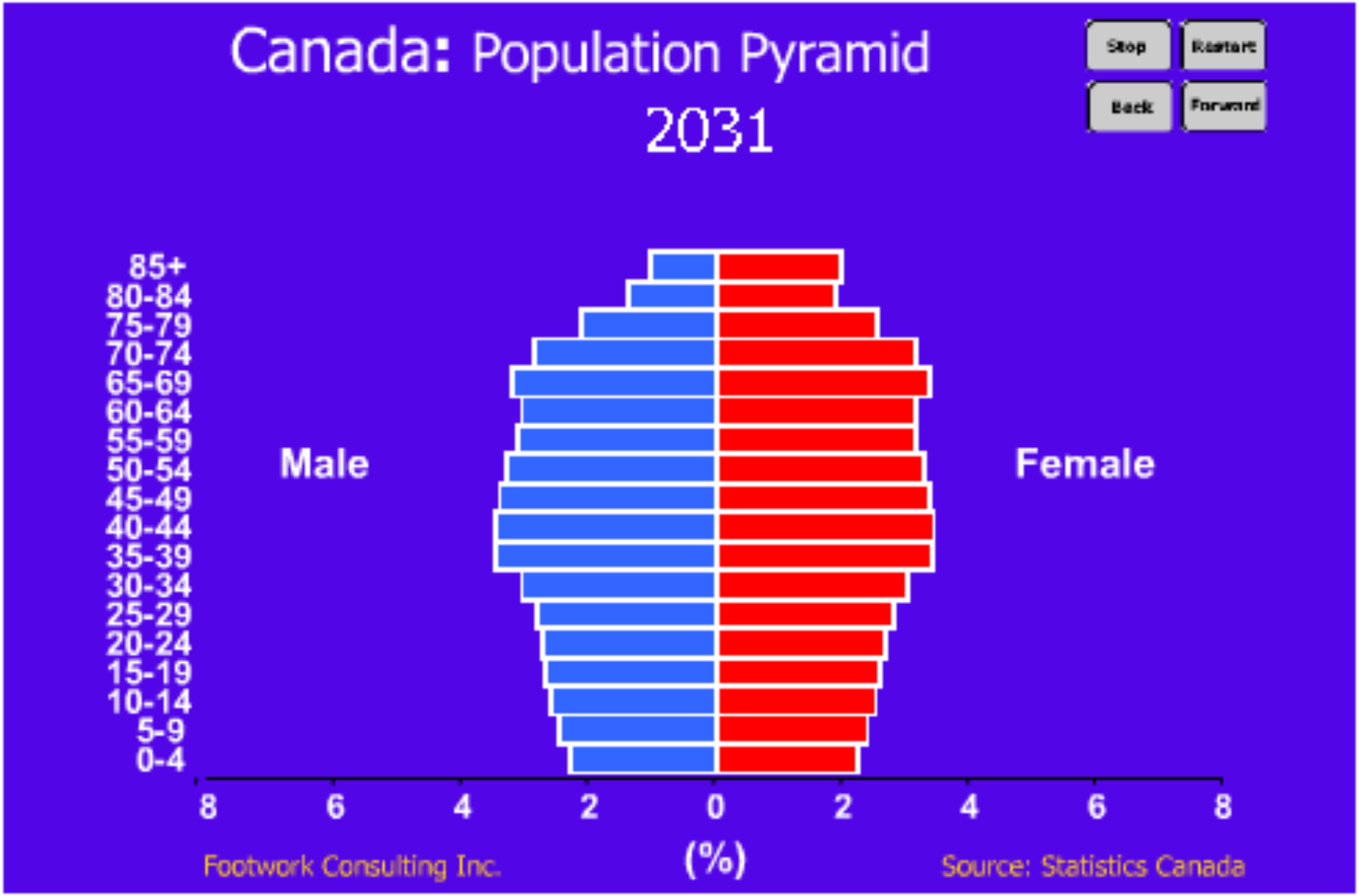

Canada: Population Pyramid
1981
Stop
Restart
Back
Forward
85+
80-84
75-79
70-74
65-69
60-64
55-59
50-54
45-49
40-44
35-39
30-34
25-29
20-24
15-19
10-14
5-9
0-4
Male
Female
8
6
4
2
0
2
4
6
8
(%)
Footwork Consulting Inc.
Source: Statistics Canada

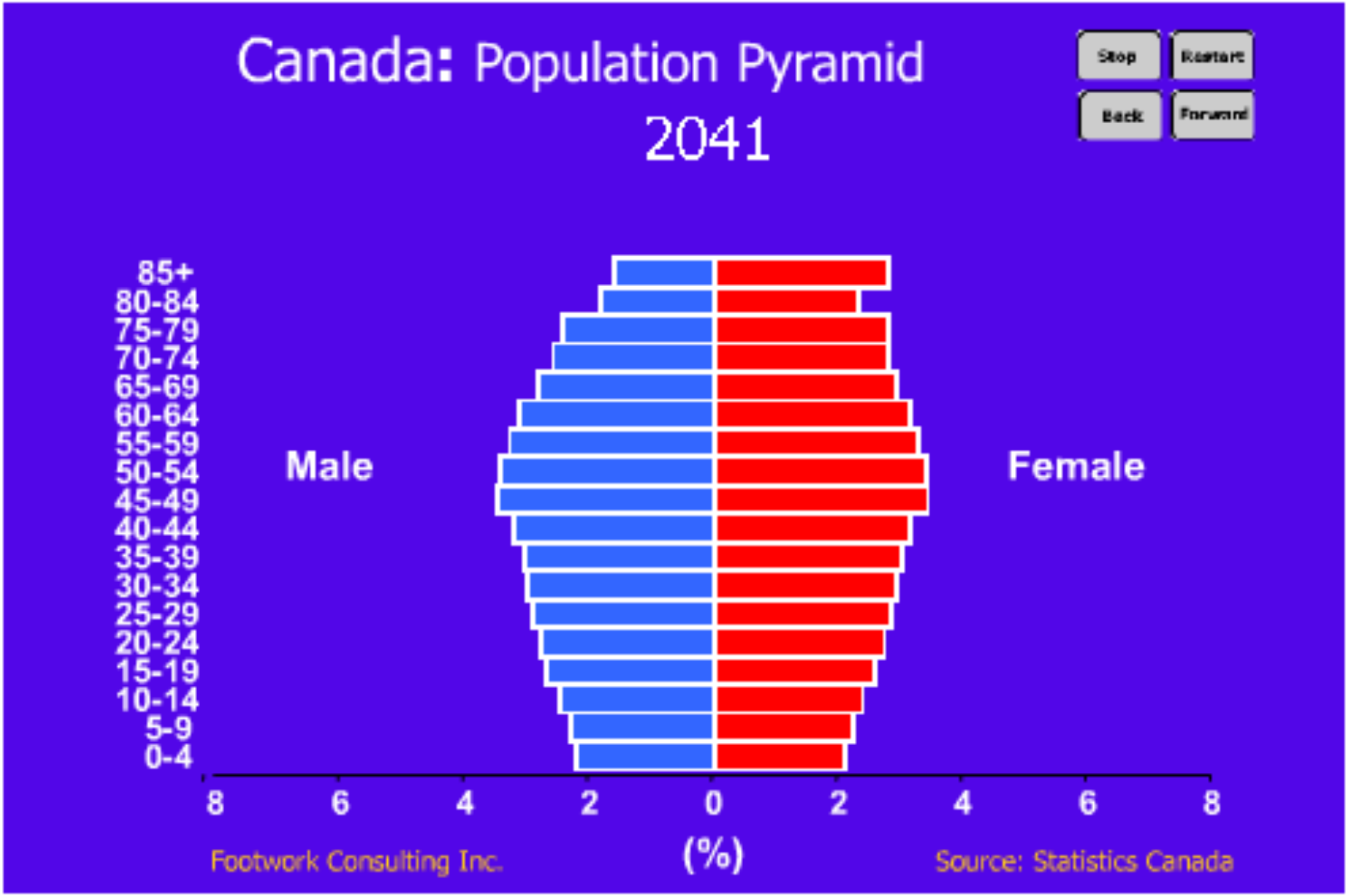

Canada: Population Pyramid
1991
Stop
Restart
Back
Forward
85+
80-84
75-79
70-74
65-69
60-64
55-59
50-54
45-49
40-44
35-39
30-34
25-29
20-24
15-19
10-14
5-9
0-4
Male
Female
8
6
4
2
0
2
4
6
8
(%)
Footwork Consulting Inc.
Source: Statistics Canada


Canada: Population Pyramid
2001
Stop
Restart
Back
Forward
85+
80-84
75-79
70-74
65-69
60-64
55-59
50-54
45-49
40-44
35-39
30-34
25-29
20-24
15-19
10-14
5-9
0-4
Male
Female
8
6
4
2
0
2
4
6
8
(%)
Footwork Consulting Inc.
Source: Statistics Canada

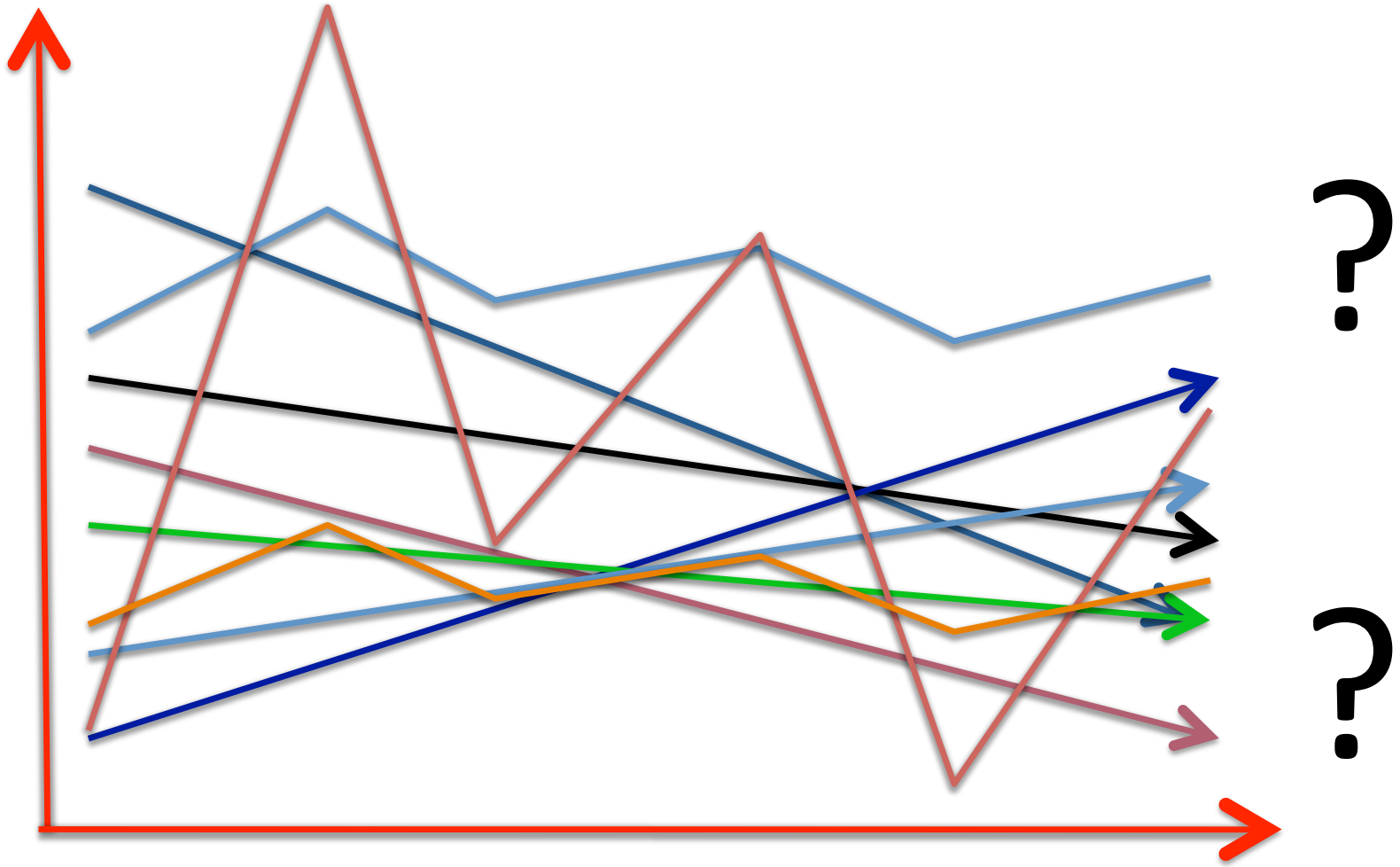

Canada: Population Pyramid
2011
Stop
Restart
Back
Forward
85+
80-84
75-79
70-74
65-69
60-64
55-59
50-54
45-49
40-44
35-39
30-34
25-29
20-24
15-19
10-14
5-9
0-4
Male
Female
8
6
4
2
0
2
4
6
8
(%)
Footwork Consulting Inc.
Source: Statistics Canada


Canada: Population Pyramid
2021
Stop
Restart
Back
Forward
85+
80-84
75-79
70-74
65-69
60-64
55-59
50-54
45-49
40-44
35-39
30-34
25-29
20-24
15-19
10-14
5-9
0-4
Male
Female
8
6
4
2
0
2
4
6
8
(%)
Footwork Consulting Inc.
Source: Statistics Canada


Canada: Population Pyramid
2031
Stop
Restart
Back
Forward
85+
80-84
75-79
70-74
65-69
60-64
55-59
50-54
45-49
40-44
35-39
30-34
25-29
20-24
15-19
10-14
5-9
0-4
Male
Female
8
6
4
2
0
2
4
6
8
(%)
Footwork Consulting Inc.
Source: Statistics Canada


Canada: Population Pyramid
2041
Stop
Restart
Back
Forward
85+
80-84
75-79
70-74
65-69
60-64
55-59
50-54
45-49
40-44
35-39
30-34
25-29
20-24
15-19
10-14
5-9
0-4
Male
Female
8
6
4
2
0
2
4
6
8
(%)
Footwork Consulting Inc.
Source: Statistics Canada

The future – blending these trends



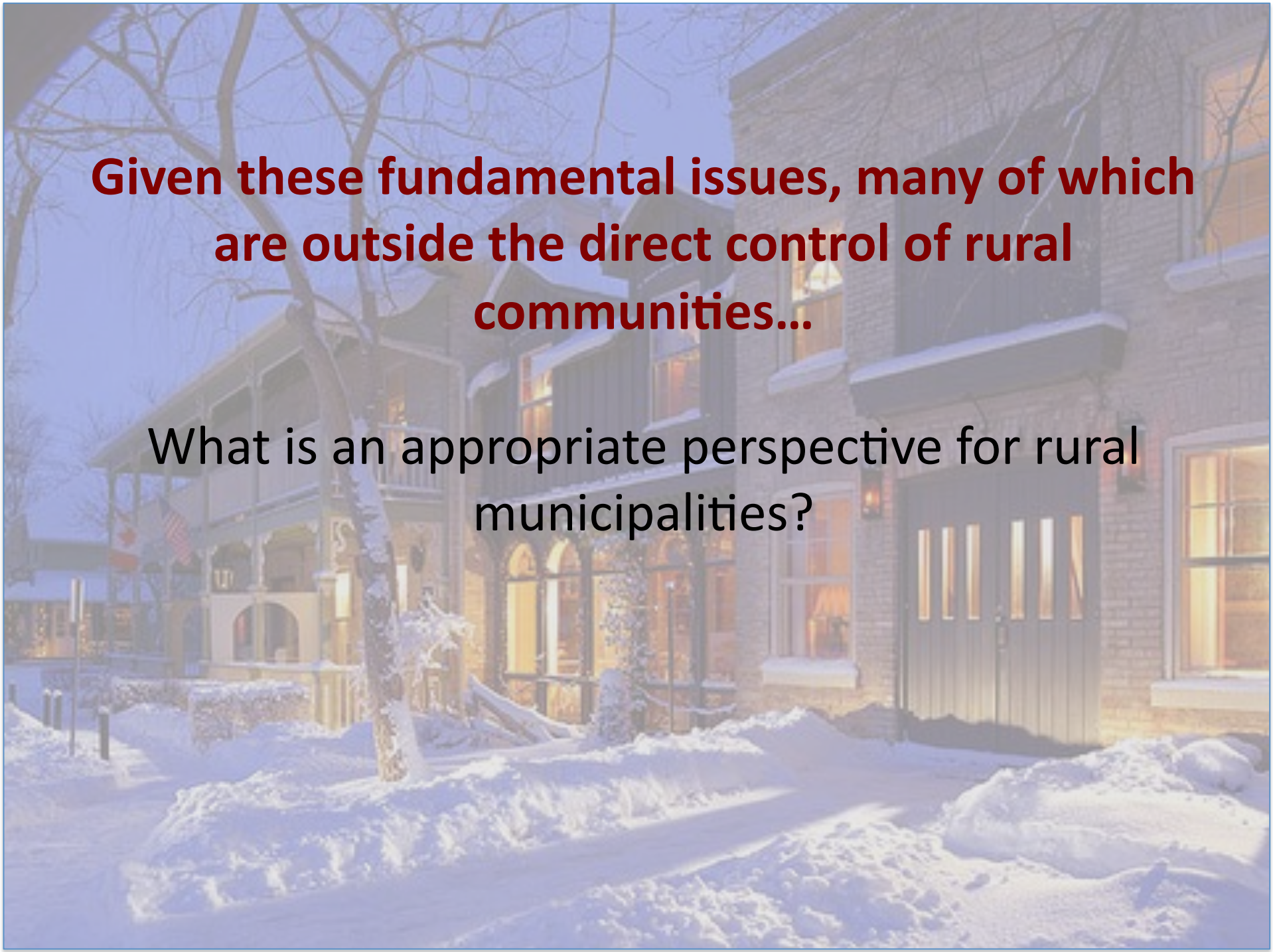
How’d we do?

Some things we can be fairly certain of…

- The supplies of conventional oil will become increasingly limited
- Energy prices will escalate
- Immigration will become the sole source of population growth
- Rural communities will struggle to attract immigrants- and for many population decline will be inevitable
- Climate change will have unanticipated effects at a global level – both in terms of food security, loss of biodiversity and political instability

Some things we can be fairly certain of…

- For the foreseeable future global population growth will continue (currently increasing at more than 70 million people per year)
- Continental and global migrations are probable
- Global economic power will increasingly shift to emerging economies such as China, India and Brazil
- Economic stagnation (including no growth scenarios) driven by energy prices and availability, climate change and related political instability will be an increasing concern
- We will increasingly reach for technological solutions, but our success with this is unknown



Given these fundamental issues, many of which are outside the direct control of rural communities…

What is an appropriate perspective for rural municipalities?

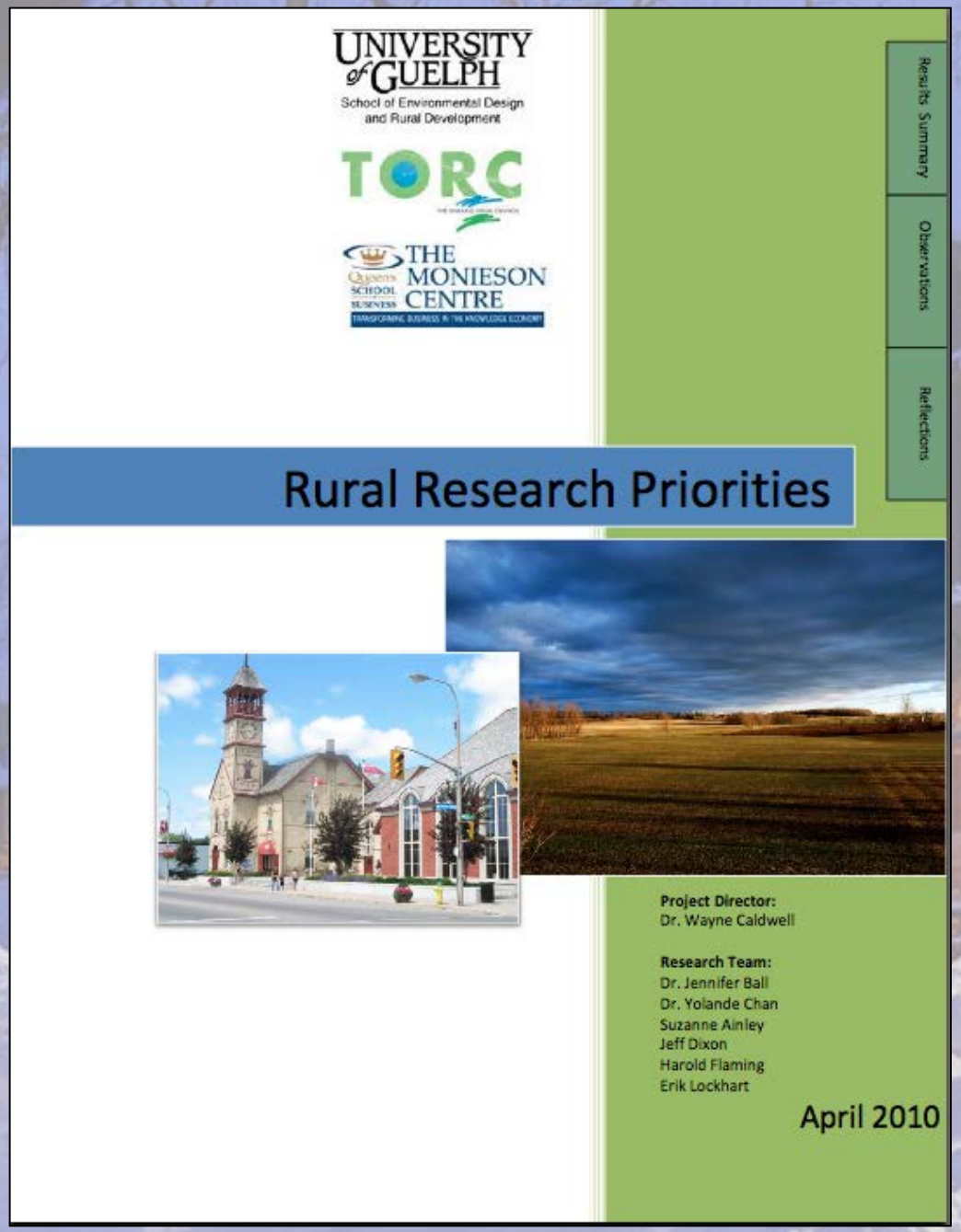
Half full or half empty?

Responding to Community, Economic and Environmental Issues

Global Regional Local

Local response required

At your table…
What solutions resonated with you during the conference?
or
What solutions would you like to offer from your own experience?



Research Project Outcome:

Burning issues

Research wish list

Local capacity

Ensuring success

Top issues from workshops in alphabetical order:

- Agriculture/farm revitalization (69)
- Broadband (+)
- Economic diversification (78)
- Efficient, cooperative government (65)
- Employment opportunities (70)
- Environmental sustainability (+)
- Financial sustainability at a community level (+)
- Healthcare (+)
- Infrastructure (70)
- Regional strategies and collaboration (61)
- Skills training/education/literacy (95)
- Sustainable economic development (69)
- Transportation improvement (78)
- Youth retention. (110)

Top Emerging Issues

- Aboriginal issues
- Access to capital for small business
- Adequate services in rural areas with declining populations
- Aging populations
- Climate change
- Immigration – attracting new immigrants and labour migration
- Poverty
- Rising energy price and the impact on rural communities
- Safe drinking water (a specific priority in the North)
- Women's issues.

Regional Development Research Questions (Sample)

3.Youth Retention (87.5)

(15 youth related questions identified – 2 examples:)

- What youth retention strategies are most effective?
- What types of programs and/or activities might we develop to retain and attract youth from the Greater Toronto Area?

Research Project Update: Prospering with a Stable or Declining Population….

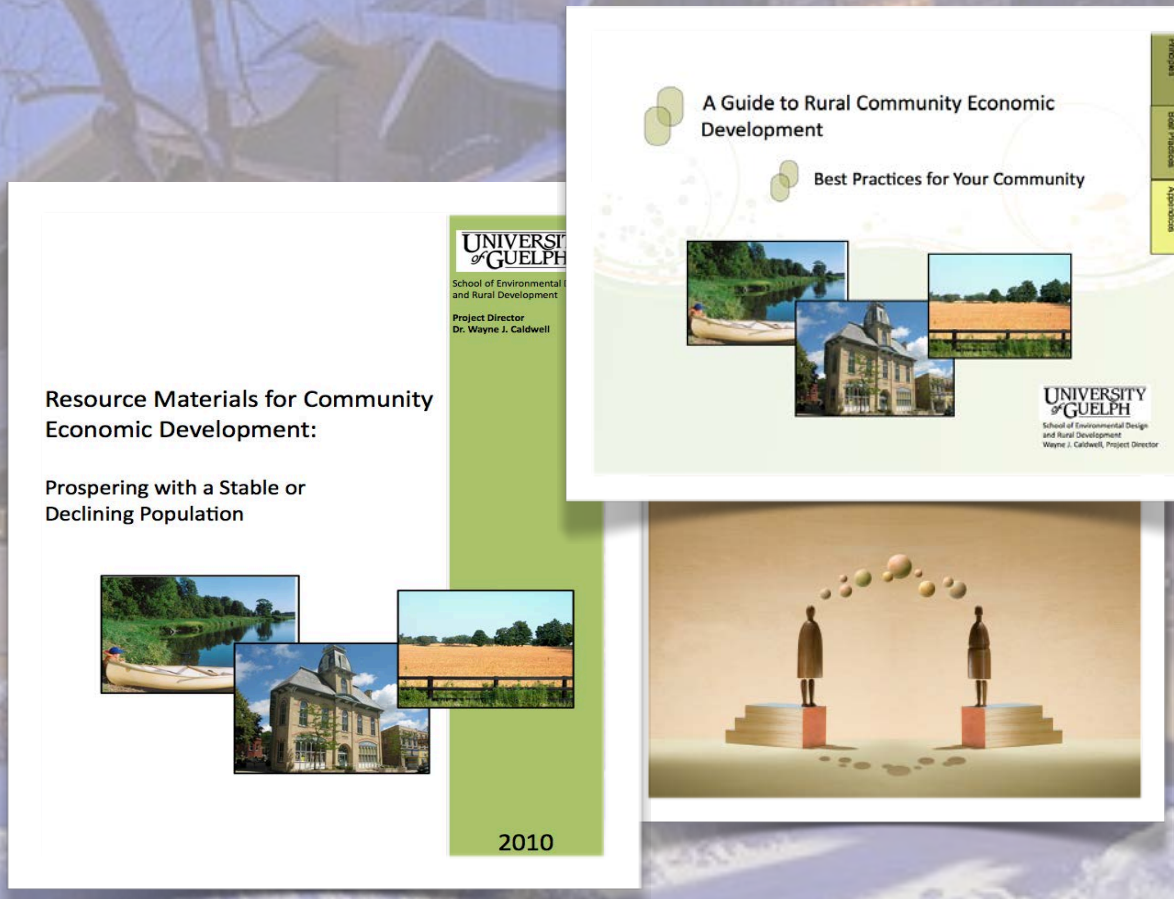
Key Success Factors for Your Community

A Rural and Small Town Perspective

ROI RURAL ONTARIO INSTITUTE
Vision, Voice and Leadership

UNIVERSITY of GUELPH
CHANGING LIVES IMPROVING LIFE

Prospering with a Stable or Declining Population

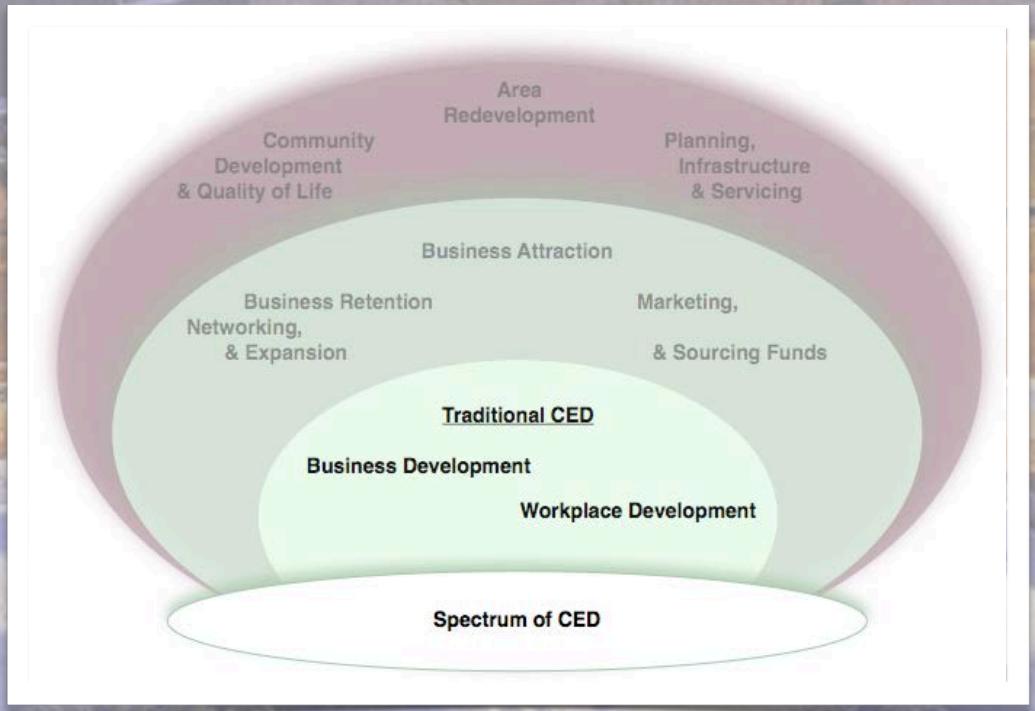


Purpose of Research

- **Reflect** on Your Community
- **Options** for CED
- **Key Factors** of Success
- **Learn** from Others

Spectrum of CED Activities

- Traditional Scope of CED
- Broader Array of Activities/Processes
- Make Strategic Choices



Key Factors of Success

- **Leadership**
  - **Community & Local Government**
  - **Challenge** Conventional Thinking
  - **Inspire** Others
  - Energy & **Drive**

Key Factors of Success

- Leadership
- **Planning & Visioning**
  - Visioning Provides **Focus** and a **Foundation**
  - Planning Sets Out a **Path**

Key Factors of Success

- Leadership
- Planning & Visioning
- **Community Engagement**
  - **Dialogue** between Community Members
  - **Opens Doors**
  - Builds **Relationships**

Key Factors of Success

- Leadership
- Planning & Visioning
- Community Engagement
- **Financial Capital**
  - **Essential** for New Initiatives
  - Increases **Capacity & Scope** of Projects
  - Opens **Partnerships**

Key Factors of Success

- **Keeping it Local**
  - **Localization** of Products and Services
  - **Self-Reliance**
  - Withstand **Economic Change**
  - Generate **Local Dollars**

Key Factors of Success

- Keeping it Local
- **Partnerships**
  - Working **Together**
  - **Combine** Individual Strengths
  - Pool **Limited Resources**

Key Factors of Success

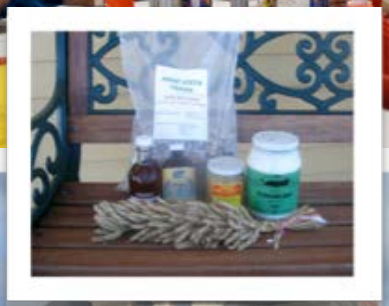
- Keeping it Local
- Partnerships
- **Adaptation to Change**
  - Using **Existing** Assets in **New** Ways
  - **Reduce** Vulnerability
  - Creative **Local Solutions**

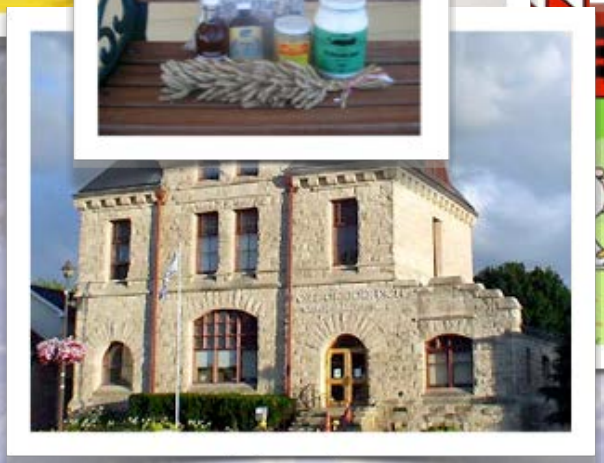
Key Factors of Success

- Keeping it Local
- Partnerships
- Adaptation to Change
- **Learning from Experience**
  - Evaluate **Progress** or **Outcomes**
  - **Indicators** of Success
  - Maintain **Accountability**

Local Success Stories

What is one success story from your community? It can be anything!





in conclusion:
Rural Renewal and Sustainable Development

- Redefines prosperity (weigh quality of life, community character, and the environment alongside economic considerations)
- Seeks true development (get better not bigger)
- Advocates the long term stewardship of community resources (ensure availability for the future)
- Pursues self-reliance and a more democratic approach to decision making
- Stresses diversity and resilience (many small efforts work better than a single one-size-fits-all solution)

(Kinsley 1997)

And Some Picture from Rural Ontario
Thanks… Any Questions
ELORA MILL INN
Farmers' Mar