

I came across your suggestion box for Sharpening Canada's Competitive edge, and I would like to post a few thoughts.

When sharpening a competitive edge I think we have to think about the fundamentals of being competitive. Where do the origins for the ones being competitive start? The answer is the origin for every business comes from individuals like you and me. Normal everyday people come across that idea that just sparks them. It drives them to find any way possible to make their idea a reality. Sometimes, these ideas take form, and end up creating a small business or that company that is competing on a global scale. Probably what ends up happening to most of these ideas is that the individual sees no possible way of actually implementing into the real world. So the idea is left to die.

I guess this in hears lies the heart of the problem.

While potentially that next billion dollar big idea could have created thousands of jobs and created more competition on a global scale instead it sits idle. This results in zero productivity. This point is that needs to be corrected. The entrepreneurial system in this country does not foster ideas far enough. In order to make these ideas a reality the individual needs an open friendly environment where they can go, who help the individual can connect with others who can make this idea actually happen. Unfortunately, when someone wants to talk to someone about their idea, it usually involves sitting in some stuffy boardroom, and the individual just ends up with a couple of pamphlets on how to start a business plan. This needs to change. Surrounding this environment, there needs to be access to real capital. It seems that nobody is will to give that individual any real attention unless they have an award winning business plan. I know that it's hard to do, especially in the business world, but we have to start trusting each other again.

I could probably write about this all day, but I can't right now. The point is to make Canada more competitive on a global scale you need to start at home. To be more competitive you need more competing. Help make the individual and small businesses of this country realize that creating and competing on a global scale is not out of reach. Let's value those small ideas a little better, and watch them grow.

The first country to do this...wins.

Alexander Scott