



## Seismic Shift: The Factors Impacting Your Nation's Workforce (and Your City) – Thursday, August 2

During the Sister Cities International Annual Conference's NextGen and Entrepreneurship track, Colorado State University-Global president Dr. Becky Takeda-Tinker discussed the impending global shift over the next decade, caused by what she calls the "3 Big Agitators," and what it means for the world moving forward.

Technology evolves at an exponential rate and automation, artificial intelligence, and robots will soon be taking over traditionally human-held jobs. With that in mind, we will see expanding need for humans to manage activities that require social and emotional skills, creativity, high-level cognitive capabilities, and other 'very human skills' that cannot be easily replaced by technology.

Preparing workers to be productive in a future of unknown possibilities requires education and training toward:

- Strong critical thinking and problem solving
- Adaptation and flexibility
- Skills' expertise – the service or products may change, or the way that it's applied may shift, but the fundamental expertise will be needed.

Post-secondary education will provide new and deeper expertise ready ourselves for an increasingly faster moving tomorrow that will have new competitors and new market needs into the future.

Dr. Takeda-Tinker closed her presentation with the importance of leadership in creative thinking, problem solving, non-linear innovation, and a collaborative engagement of emotions that can truly and positively change communities, cities, countries, and our world.