

IR UPDATE WEEKLY

June 5, 2018

Light the Lamp

Despite my deep Canadian heritage (both French and Anglo), I never played hockey. Northern Ohio, where I grew up, was dominated by football (Go Buckeyes!), and I can't recall any of my friends playing hockey. I enjoy the speed of the game, but don't understand the strategy or tactics and definitely not the rules. But despite my lack of enthusiasm, I am always caught up in the Stanley Cup playoffs for the NHL championship. This is especially true this year, as I work in the city of one team while planning a conference in the city of their opponent. (Though, for the record, I am a Chicago Blackhawks fan).

This year's Stanley Cup Final features the (Las) Vegas Golden Knights and the Washington (D.C.) Capitals. The series is notable as it is the first time since 1967 that a team – the Golden Knights – has made it to the Stanley Cup Finals in their first year of operation. This is an astonishing achievement, literally a 500-to-1 chance. This is only the second time in the Capitals' 44-year history that the team has made it to the Cup Final, having lost in a sweep in 1998. Both teams are exciting to watch and the series has drawn a lot of interest. The Capitals currently lead the best-of-seven series three games to one.

I share this because the 1,100 participants in next week's NIRI Annual Conference may be, improbably, caught up in a game played on ice as they enjoy the heat of the Las Vegas desert. It is possible that the Capitals can win the next game and hoist Lord Stanley's Cup before NIRI gets to Las Vegas, but I hope not. It would be a lot of fun to be in Vegas during at least one of the games (if needed, Game 6 will be played on June 10, the opening night of the Annual Conference).

If you are lucky enough to be joining us for the [2018 Annual Conference](#), remember the things to [know before you go](#). Make sure you bring lots of business cards. Wear comfortable shoes. And remember to hydrate, get plenty of sleep, and ... oh, never mind. It is Vegas. Have fun.

All the best,
Gary



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