

What's Next for AFERM?

Ring in the New Year comes with a number of exciting changes for the members of AFERM. Many of you attended the first 2013 bi-monthly presentation on ERM, supported by John Fraser, a world-renowned speaker on risk management. The Communications and Finance Committees continue to develop an exciting new website platform for sharing information and communicating with our colleagues. The Membership Committee continues to work to build AFERM membership through various outreach strategies. In addition, the Program Committee is already hard at work planning a dynamic and exciting AFERM Summit for 2013.

AFERM leadership was ecstatic to have such tremendous attendance at the first bi-monthly presentation of 2013 on January 31. The presentation was hosted at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies in Washington, DC. During our first session to include lunch for attendees, AFERM members heard an informative presentation from John Fraser, Senior Vice President, Internal Audit and Chief Risk Officer of Hydro One Networks Inc. Among Mr. Fraser's accolades, he is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario, a Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (U.K.), a Certified Internal Auditor, and a Certified Information Systems Auditor. Mr. Fraser provided attendees with insights into the role of the Chief Risk Officer, and discussed methods for integrating the risk management framework into business practices. His presentation was informed by his more than 30 years experience in the risk and control field, including areas such as finance, fraud, derivatives, safety, environmental, computers and operations. As a recognized authority on ERM and co-editor of a best-selling university text-book about ERM, our membership had the opportunity to hear an impressive perspective on risk management in practice.

Mr. Fraser's presentation to the AFERM members was important for a couple of reasons. First, the meeting provided a valued source of risk management insight for our members, a priority for every bi-monthly presentation that we host. Second, it signaled a renewed focus on connectivity between our members and to potential new members. We plan to continue hosting bi-monthly meetings with a lunch option based on positive AFERM member survey feedback. We have created an AFERM LinkedIn site, to provide a new option for connecting to other Federal ERM professionals all over the world. We will continue working to roll out the new AFERM website, which will also be used to expand our reach to like-minded individuals and provide additional resources for our members. In addition, we continue to increase our membership roster in order to expand the cumulative level of experience available to all of us at AFERM.

As a member of AFERM, 2013 promises a number of exciting changes. Please stay tuned to the AFERM newsletter for more information!