

Chairman's 2023 Festive Year End Message

It must be a sign of ageing, but the New Year seems to come round quicker and quicker every year and so ends another one. At least we have Christmas and the holiday season to enjoy. Mining, Risk, and Insurance have a long and proud association with Christmas. Whether it is the transportation that millions of us will take over the holiday period, the facilities and utensils that we prepare the family dinner with, the jewellery and high-tech gifts we give our loved ones, or simply keeping the lights on the Christmas Tree, mining and the metals and minerals produced play a vital part. And similarly with insurance; there is an increase in the number of fires from candles and faulty lights at Christmas, incidents of people falling through the ceiling as they retrieve decorations from attics, parents tripping over discarded toys, burst pipes, stolen bikes, and a burnt partridge in a pear tree!

MIRA was busy in 2023 not least with the conference being held in Vancouver in November. This was the first time that the conference has been held in person since 2019 and we were overwhelmed with interest and support. The event was attended by more than 200 people from across the mining, insurance, and risk sectors. We were massively oversubscribed and sadly we couldn't accommodate everyone, but it was a fantastic testament to how popular and successful the MIRA conferences have become. We heard from expert speakers and presenters on a range of topics including climate change resilience, supply chain issues, geopolitical pressures, claims lessons learned, tailings disposal, digital transformation, and innovation. Our thanks again to the conference sponsors, all our presenters, and everyone that attended and participated. Conference sessions and photos are being made available on the MIRA website.

MIRA will be celebrating its 10-year anniversary in 2024 and we continue to go from strength to strength and our membership base continues to grow. We now have more than a hundred corporate and individual members from the wider mining and insurance global community with whom we leverage the extensive expertise we encompass to educate, collaborate and consult across a range of issues.

Looking ahead to 2024, we plan on establishing a calendar of events to include the AGM in April, technical group webinars, working group sessions, risk managers forums, and networking events. Watch this space for further details.

Finally, I would simply thank you for your ongoing support and wish everyone a safe and happy festive period and good fortune for the New Year.

James Fryer
MIRA Chairman on behalf of the MIRA Board