

**Kounelas, Sandra**

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**From:** Kounelas, Sandra  
**Sent:** March-23-17 10:59 AM  
**To:** Kounelas, Sandra  
**Subject:** FW: MES Discussion Group | Wednesday March 29th | Lessons from a National Survey of Exploration Health and Safety with Dr. William Mercer



**MANAGEMENT AND ECONOMICS  
SOCIETY**

Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum

For its **Wednesday, March 29th** meeting, the Toronto Discussion Group of CIM's Management and Economics Society is pleased to welcome

**Dr. William Mercer, Vice President, Exploration  
Avalon Advanced Materials Inc.**

***Lessons from a National Survey of  
Exploration Health and Safety***



The Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) in partnership with the Association for Mineral Exploration - BC (AME) has conducted a safety performance survey of the national mineral exploration industry in Canada for eleven years now. In periods of increased exploration activity, the mineral exploration industry has had a relatively high frequency of incidents and far too high a rate of fatalities. What is the cause of this disturbing trend? “Leading indicators” show that not all

companies have a strong safety culture. Given the involvement of professional engineers and geoscientists in many smaller exploration companies, this is especially worrying.

After a 32-year career in mineral exploration with the Noranda/Falconbridge group, Dr. Mercer has been Vice President, Exploration with Avalon Advanced Materials since 2007. In 2005, after being President of the Prospectors and Developers Association from 2002 to 2004, he started the PDAC Health and Safety Committee. The objective was to enable the national exploration industry as a whole to improve its health and safety performance. As chair of the committee, Dr. Mercer gives frequent presentations to exploration audiences on the learnings from the work of the committee.

In January 2009, Dr. Mercer was the recipient of the David Barr Award from the Association for Mineral Exploration in British Columbia for excellence in leadership and innovation in mineral exploration health and safety. In 2015, he was the recipient of the “Award for Environmental Excellence” of the NWT and Nunavut Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists in recognition of his environmental efforts relating to renewable energy use at Avalon’s Nechalacho Project in Canada’s Northwest Territories.

**Avalon Advanced Materials** is a Canadian mineral development company with a primary focus on the rare metals and minerals, headquartered in Toronto. Health and safety, social responsibility and leadership in environmental stewardship are corporate cornerstones.

**Please join us!**

**Refreshments at 4:15pm – Presentation at 4:35 pm**

**Wednesday, March 29, 2017**

**at Borden Ladner Gervais LLP**

**Bay Adelaide Centre, East Tower, 22 Adelaide Street West, 34th floor,  
Toronto**

*All are welcome to this excellent networking and learning opportunity.  
Thank you to our sponsor, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP for again providing the  
space.*

**Please help us organize by emailing [secretary@cimmes.org](mailto:secretary@cimmes.org) if you plan  
attend**

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