

CGSA Report – AGSA Dec 2018

It has been a very stressful and trying time for many courses across Alberta as we start winter. Unfortunately, snow and rain combined with warm temperatures have once again caused ice formation. Many courses have been out trying to remove and minimize the amount of ice before the cold winter temps set in. When we talk about climate change, we are seeing first-hand that there are slight changes taking place. Regular rain in November seems to be the new normal, and many superintendents are using as many techniques they can think of to prevent ice buildup. Let's hope the warm stretch lasts just long enough for everyone to get their properties clear.

With the winter season comes conference season. The just recently completed Property Managers Conference was a success again. Thanks to Cam Kusiek and his committee for once again putting together a fantastic educational event. Also, we must congratulate Cam in becoming the new President of the AGSA! The CGSA once again partnered with the AGSA for a Sunday seminar, and we hope to continue this relationship at the regional conference in the future. At the AGM the changing of the guard took place; Congratulations to Robin Sadler who finishes his service to the AGSA board. The new board member stepping in is Jeff Lefebvre from Northern Bear Golf Club in Edmonton, we wish him all the best as he joins the board. The Distinguished Service Award went to Terry Shinkewski, from Earl Grey Golf Club in Calgary. Terry has served on the board of the AGSA and was President in 2012. Well-deserved and congratulations.

With the AGSA Property Managers Conference in the rear-view mirror we turn our attention to "The Canadian" that will take place at the Banff Springs Hotel and Conference Centre from March 4-7. "Mountains of Opportunity" is our theme and the committee, with Kathryn's help, have been hard at work to put together a great event. Our opening address will be with Laura Katen, she is President of Katen consulting where she delivers professional development training in communication, etiquette and professionalism. We look forward to having her to jump start our conference. Our extensive education lineup is available at www.golfsupers.com. In between those education sessions we have our Trade Show, where our industry partners will show us what's new and exciting for the turf industry. The social lineup is always important to all delegates because when you come to an event you want to have fun! The AGSA will start it off with an Alberta Welcome on the Monday night, Tuesday BrettYoung will sponsor the SociALL at the Trade Show. Wednesday will be a very special evening as we head up the Banff Gondola to see the sunset on top of the Mountain! Don't forget this is just at the conference. If you plan to extend your trip Banff has everything to offer, our website has links for preferred ski packages, discounts for the airport shuttle, etc. It will be a fabulous week in the Rockies!

Just recently announced was the addition of Toro to the Golfmax program. They are now the preferred supplier within the Golfmax Purchasing Program. Toro will provide rebates on new and used equipment, along with opportunity buys exclusive to CGSA and NGCOA members. Watch for further details on the specifics of the program very soon.

The Holiday season is nearing, it's great to take some down time and be with family. All the best to our members over the Holiday season, and we will look forward to a prosperous 2019.

Dustin Zdan
CGSA Alberta Director