

CGSA Alberta Report – Feb 2019

The days are getting longer, and the sun seems to have more power everyday as we look forward to spring and another golf season. The winter has been an unusual one. In the south the temperatures have been jumping up and down like a yo-yo, with virtually no snow in the deep south of the province and constant chinooks have made it relatively mild for the Calgary area. As we go north a good snow cover exists and as with most of the province, we have been able to avoid the extreme cold so far this winter. With the past couple of years, the big question has been ice! How much and for how long has it been there? Let's hope for a positive outcome when spring breaks.

I am really excited to be your host, conference chair, as our members make their way to Alberta and Banff Springs for the Canadian. From March 4-7, Banff will offer up a spectacular setting for the Canadian Golf Course Management Conference. The committee has been hard at work getting speakers and lining up a social program that will make Banff truly unforgettable. I want to personally thank the committee and Kathryn for all the work they have done for what we believe will be a huge success. The education lineup looks tremendous; a full day of seminars on Monday, the main program on Tuesday kicking off with dynamic speaker Laura Katen on communication strategies. Late Tuesday we get the tradeshow underway where it will run until Wednesday afternoon. Thursday is full day of speakers and what a lineup it is, highlighted by an outstanding afternoon with Turf Talks, followed by a mental health talk by Miranda Robinson and Paul Robertson, and we finish the conference with Hazeltine Superintendent Chris Tritabaugh on Leadership and Balance.

With all that learning we will most definitely need some time to relax and see old friends; the other side of networking and a very important part of our conference. Monday evening, we are grateful to have the AGSA hosting a "Welcome to Alberta Night" at the Banff Avenue Brewing Company. Tuesday, we have the Awards luncheon and late in the afternoon we kick-off the tradeshow with the SociALL. What we expect to

be the highlight of the experience in Banff will be Wednesday when everyone heads up to Sulphur Mountain for the Sunset Gondola Reception. Busses will leave from the hotel taking us to jump on the Gondola to the top of Sulphur Mountain where we will enjoy the sunset and spectacular views of the Rocky Mountains. The Banff experience will definitely be one you won't want to miss. I look forward to seeing everyone in March!

On a personal note I want to thank our Alberta members for their support over my term as Alberta Director of the CGSA. I will be letting my name stand for Alberta Director at the AGM and hope to continue to work for our members and the CGSA.

Dustin Zdan, AGS
CGSA Alberta Director