

## GreenMatter

Many Superintendents and Assistants were counting down the days for things to wrap up for another golfing season here in Manitoba.

This year brought some challenges to a hand full of courses in the province right from the beginning of the season all the way to the end of October. Weather was a main factor in our unusual season which saw it go from snow covered and -10... to + 30 a week later and continued to be hot and dry throughout the summer months without any rain in sight until September when it turned back to cold single digit normal highs with some rain and light snow mixed into October.

That being said, all courses that I have heard about, have been able to find that window of opportunity to get their final chemical applications down, irrigation blown out and things cleaned up on the course before winter really starts to set in.

It wasn't just a tough year on courses but on the education sector of Manitoba as well with the news that the Greenspace Management program offered at Red River College in Winnipeg was coming to an end. The program had offered students the opportunity to work in a great industry not just the golf sector but other areas of landscape as well. It is unfortunate that RRC is not accepting any new enrollment and will finish once the last class has graduated. Even though I had didn't attend the Greenspace program, I have seen many great students graduate from that program and have become very successful Superintendents, Assistants and Industry Associates. A huge thanks go out to all the instructors including Rob Officer, Ruth Rob and Gord Bone who have dedicated their time and effort in mentoring our current and future Turf Mangers.

The MGSA Annual Conference is set for November 14<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> at the Canad Inns Polo Park in Winnipeg, MB. This year's speaker lineup includes; Douglas J. Cattani from University of Manitoba Department of Plant Science, Martha Barwinsky of the City of Winnipeg Forester, Paul Koch from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Bill Kreuser from the University of Nebraska and Kent Hahn from The Toro Company. Just like any conference, it's a great time to educate our minds with information that can help us along the way as well as the endless networking opportunities with others in our industry. I know the MGSA is excited to have our President of the CGSA Kendall Constatin, MS attend the conference and show him our Manitoba hospitality.

Talking about conferences and networking, have you had the opportunity to register for the conference in Banff this coming March? If you haven't there is no better time than the present. The conference will feature over 15 hours of education sessions that will provide mountains of opportunity for those in the turf management profession. An additional 16 hours of seminar programming is available on Monday to add more value to your conference experience. All this and we still haven't mentioned the great networking and social activities that are part of the event. Go to [www.golfsupers.com](http://www.golfsupers.com) to register now, you don't want to miss this opportunity!

I hope everyone has a successful closing and I look forward to seeing you all at "The Canadian" in Banff in 2019!

Darren Kalyniuk

Manitoba Director, CGSA

