

ONTARIO REPORT

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The winter in Ontario has been milder than normal in many parts of the province. Despite the lack of snow, it has not been favourable on turf with numerous freeze/thaw cycles occurring. Here is an example of the extremes that many parts of Ontario experienced over three consecutive Saturdays in January. The first Saturday saw temperatures reaching up to a high of 14 degrees Celsius with 85 mm of rain in some regions presenting flooding problems. The second Saturday saw temperatures below zero with 20cm of snow and the third Saturday once again rose above zero with another 75 mm of rain. There have been some reports of ice buildup on turf, but it is still too early to determine if there will be any damage. Here's hoping that all golf courses come out clean in the spring.

The annual OGSA Golf Course Management Conference was held at the beautiful Sheraton on the Falls in Niagara Falls. Attendance was excellent at this fine venue with an excellent selection of speakers and social activities. Work is well underway for next year's location and an announcement will be expected soon. Congratulations to CGSA member Tim Muys, Superintendent at Piper's Heath Golf Club, on being elected incoming President at the AGM.

Looking to refer a new member to the CGSA? There are excellent rewards to existing CGSA members for their referrals and also very equitable discounts for new members hoping to go to the upcoming Canadian Golf Course Management Conference in Ottawa, Ontario. Please contact Lori Micucci at 800-387-1056 ext. 27 for further inquiries. It is still not too late.

Enjoy the rest of your winter and I am looking very forward to being your Co-Chair at the upcoming conference in Ottawa March 1-5.

All the best.