

## Ontario Report, John McLinden

Spring has arrived earlier than normal for many parts of the province. Above seasonal temperatures and below average snowfall have made for an optimal spring as Superintendents prepare their courses for opening day. Some courses in Southwestern Ontario and the Niagara region were able to open as early as April 1. There are a few cases of ice and snow mold damage but overall courses seemed to winter pretty well this year.

The covid 19 numbers are still on the rise in Ontario despite vaccinations being administered. An emergency brake was issued on April 3 which prohibited such things as indoor dining and personal care services. Further to that a stay-at-home order was issued on April 8 allowing only grocery stores and pharmacies to remain open at limited capacities while all other businesses can operate with curbside services. Despite all these restrictions it was announced on April 8 that golf courses can open or remain open during this current lockdown. This is some much-needed good news for golfers and facilities province wide.

Lastly, we are sad to hear that Sally Ross, Executive Director of the OGSA, decided to retire earlier this year to spend time with her family. Sally was Executive Director for 11 years and her leadership and dedication to the association will be tremendously missed. Thank you Sally for all your contributions to the golf industry and enjoy a happy, healthy retirement.

As always, good luck to everyone for a successful season and stay safe and healthy.