

Tuesday, February 04, 2020

## BC Report

Well it's mid-winter and for most of us in BC the weather and whether our turf will survive another indifferent winter is our biggest concern. In the interior the winter has been mild, apart from the early cold snap, the weather seems to have co-operated. We had timely snows before more recent cold periods which should help maintain vigour and colour in our winterized turf. The lower mainland and island however, have experienced terrible rain/snow events these past few weeks causing courses to close and superintendents to worry about water removal. While I haven't heard of any catastrophes, it serves as a constant reminder that Mother Nature is unpredictable. Hopefully superintendents around our entire province have gotten the good side of her holiness and have a prosperous spring.

There has been a couple of member moves recently that I am aware of and so I would like to wish Steve Kerbrat and Tim Kubash, MS well in their future endeavours. Steve has accepted a position at Campbell River Golf and Country Club with our esteemed President, Greg Austin, and Tim has decided to go full time with his Western Rootzone business. I know both of these men well and I wish them the very best of luck.

Congratulations to Graeme Douglas, winner of the Gordon Witteveen Superintendent article of the year award. For those that missed it, Graeme's article, about building a golf course in Cuba 25 years ago, is both entertaining and informative. I highly suggest you look it up and give it a read.

The BCGSA Professional Development Days was held in Victoria in November and while I couldn't attend I have heard the event was a tremendous success and continued its fantastic increase in attendance. I am very proud to be a member of the BCGSA as well and look forward to our partnership next fall in Vancouver at the Canadian Golf Industry Show. Congratulations are in order for Dean Piller, AGS and Brian Youell, MS, AGS who have worked tirelessly developing this event and as always have provided an excellent product. I believe this may be Brian's last year on the committee and all of us in BC should thank him for his efforts.

The CGSA will be hosting its annual conference at the Westin Hotel and Conference Center March 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>. Our staff are working hard putting the final touches on this event which will surely be another excellent opportunity to learn and network with peers and educators alike. I see we have a good turn out from BC so any of you sitting on the fence it's time to jump the Ottawa Valley is awaiting your arrival.

Put November 9<sup>th</sup> in your calendar now. The CGSA in conjunction with the NGCOA, and the PGA of Canada and BCGSA will be jointly hosting the biggest golf conference our country has seen. My hopes are that an event such as this will do much to bring Pro's, Owner's and Superintendents more in alignment. Being able to show your owner and pro the professionalism of the turf industry is paramount to earning respect from both.

Good luck to all in the fast approaching upcoming season.

Sincerely,

Ken Brunski – BC Director - CGSA