

Thursday, September 30, 2021

BC Report

As I sit and write this report on the newly christened Truth and Reconciliation Day my thoughts go out to any of the families and friends that have been affected by atrocities of the past. I hope you can find some piece of solace today. As a superintendent at a native run golf course I have friends that have experienced firsthand the extreme prejudice bestowed upon the native community during those times and it makes me ill. Happily and hopefully we are on a different path today.

Okay, in regards to British Columbia golf superintendents most of the reports I got are that many of us are happy we are closing in on the end of a long season. Extreme heat, smoke and low amounts of precipitation were the things most or all of us in BC experienced, making our jobs much harder. I also know in parts of BC water restrictions played a huge role for some superintendents and my heart goes out to those impacted. I may not be the smartest superintendent but I learned in Biology 101 that food, light, and water were kind of important for growing grass. Yes I took Biology 101. From firsthand experience I have never seen weather quite as drastic and I was sort of happy when the fires hit and the smoke cover tempered the heat to some extent. But then I was very unhappy when the humidity from the smoke increased the disease pressure. It's always something isn't it? Anyway, I am certain that all of my colleagues performed admirably during these tough times because that's what superintendents do. Perhaps a few less hairs or more grey hairs but nonetheless we made it.

Covid continues to have a large impact on golf in BC and with our ability to hold events or meetings. Just when we thought we were doing well Delta hit. In-person meetings have begun but limitations on gatherings are still making it difficult to plan anything. Some of the chapters have held meetings and there are plans to hold the Professional Development Days in November. I have missed all of the meetings due to work but plan on attending the Interior chapter Wind-up Tournament in the near future. Golf has continued to thrive during the pandemic and all reports are record numbers of golfers in BC are hitting the links. It's a great sport and hopefully we can retain some or all of the new golfers we've had this season.

The CGSA will be providing details for the upcoming conference in January so stay tuned for that and I hope to see all of you there.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Bruniski, AGS – CGSA BC Director