



January 19, 2016

For immediate release

CGCMC Launches CGSA's 50th Year

The Canadian Golf Superintendents Association (CGSA), in cooperation with the Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association (OGSA), staged the 2016 Canadian Golf Course Management Conference (CGCMC) from January 12th – 14th at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre in downtown Toronto. It was the inaugural CGCMC, the start of the CGSA's 50th anniversary year and the major event of the year for both the OGSA and the CGSA!

CGCMC 2016 attracted over 1000 participants to Toronto for an exciting education program and golf course management trade show. The education program featured over 40 speakers, 42 different topics and over 60 hours of educational programming for delegates.

This year's trade show featured 78 exhibitors occupying approximately 20,000 square feet of space in what is the largest golf course management trade show held in Canada each year. The 2016 version was 25% larger than the previous year and participation was up by an estimated 40%. The show floor featured the CGSA Hall of Fame display, which included displays and artifacts from the association's 50 year history. The display was supplemented by several unique items borrowed from the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame.

The conference was also a time to recognize the 2015 CGSA and OGSA award recipients including Keith Blayney (Bayer Superintendent of the Year), Rob Officer (John B Steel), Morgan Robins (Toro Future Superintendent of the Year), Owen Russell (Club Car Environmental), Paul Robertson (Gordon Witteveen) and Yvon Jeaurond (John Deere Equipment Technician of the Year). OGSA recognized John Taylor (William Sansom Distinguished Service), George Bannerman (50 Year member) and Norm McCollum (Honourary member), and several other long service, scholarship and publication related award recipients. Several other awards and distinctions were also presented as part of the CGSA/OGSA Awards Luncheon, sponsored by Bayer.

At the CGSA Annual General Meeting on Wednesday afternoon following the trade show, James Beebe presented the redesign framework, highlighting several key actions identified by the Board of Directors as being instrumental to the initiative. Among those were a commitment to stronger national / provincial relations, a focus on management based education and a 25% decrease in membership fees for core members including superintendents and assistant superintendents. There was also an undertaking to further investigate the possibility of a facility membership fee for golf course management staff.

Thanks to the Conference Coordinating Committee including Co-Chairs Mark Prieur and Jim Flett, Paul Scenna, Rob Ackermann, Jay Honeyball, Marc Brooks, Rod Speake, David Kuypers, Matthew Legg, Greg Brown and Colin White.

Thanks as well to the event sponsors Bayer, John Deere, Syngenta, Toro, Brett Young, Rain Bird and Pumps Plus for their support and assistance in staging the event. Thanks also to our industry education partners Intelligro (Civitas), Bayer, Residex (Turfgrass Canada) and Evergro.

Correction: Dustin Zdan, CGSA Alberta Director is from the Connaught Golf Club in Medicine Hat Alberta and not the Medicine Hat Golf Club, as previously reported.

The CGSA represents golf course superintendents from across Canada. Its mission is to promote and support golf superintendents. The association is also committed to environmentally sustainable practices with respect to the management of golf course properties. For more information on the CGSA and its many initiatives, programs and services, please contact Ken Cousineau at kcousineau@golfsupers.com or 416-626-8873, ext. 222.

201-5399 Eglinton Avenue West, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M9C 5K6 / Tel: 416-626-8873.

Toll Free 800-387-1056. Fax 416-626-1958 / Email: cgsa@golfsupers.com

Website: www.golfsupers.com