

ALBERTA REPORT DUSTIN ZDAN ALBERTA DIRECTOR

The early season continues in Alberta with most every region in the province open or very close to Opening. Above seasonal temperatures have the turf thinking its May or June! Many regions are reporting outstanding conditions coming out of the winter, and those with an early start are seeing the cash registers ringing even with the economic conditions in Alberta. Let's hope this carries through for a great season.

It's that time of year again, everyone should have received their renewal for memberships. If you have not received it please contact Lori at the office or myself to get you setup. We have touched on the benefits of membership a lot in recent months and right now more than ever our national body is present at the forefront on many issues. With the PMRA re-evaluation on-going, our presence representing the industry on the national level is of the utmost importance! Very soon our submission will be sent to the PMRA, at which time we hope to have member participation for individual submissions to the PMRA. Stay tuned for updates on your email for the latest news on the re-evaluation issues.

An important item of note for our Alberta members is the recent change to the Pesticide Recertification program. Along with obtaining credits for recertification, if you hold a restricted license, one transferred from another province as an example, you will now have to write the legislation exam. Here is the wording from the website:

"RESTRICTED CERTIFICATES: If your certificate contains a restriction that indicates "Restricted from Operating a Registered Service", prior to recertifying your certificate you will, in addition to the above requirement, have to write and pass the Alberta Legislation examination. You can arrange to write this exam by contacting Lakeland College office. Passing this exam will also provide you with 2 credits in regulations that you can apply towards your current recertification credit requirements."

You will need to obtain the latest edition of the Alberta Pesticide Legislation to study from and then setup the exam through Lakeland College. The exam is 20 questions and 1 hour in duration. I know a few of our members were shocked upon renewal when they discovered they had to write an exam. It is recommended you become familiar with the content for a couple weeks prior to writing the exam.

Good luck to everyone as the season gets underway don't forget the Spring Meeting of the AGSA goes on June 7th at The Blackhawk Golf Club, with host Mike Johnson. Both James and I will be in attendance to update everyone and answer any questions regarding the CGSA. See you then!