



1st Quarter Update 07/03/2020

Despite the late start amidst COVID-19, reports across the province have been very positive. The golf sector has posted record numbers in part by NGCOA Canada's effort to lobby comprehensive safety protocols. Presenting guidelines for safe operation, Health Canada lifted its federal restriction and provinces followed suit. Coupled by the limited recreational competition since May 2nd, golf has benefitted - the power of association! Despite the limited F&B options available, green fees and cart rentals remained the top two profit centers of each golf facility. Entering phase three, recreational options have opened, and Parks & Recreation departments are now re-staffing in numbers with great urgency.

Rain throughout May and June has also been excessive, where Calgary airport reported 161.6mm vs 282.3mm in 2019 & 2020 respectfully. With a bumper crop of broadleaf weeds and few breaks of dry days to spray, all in all July is looking green(\$\$\$)!



Research Projects:

Current: The Fall Fertility project funded by The Canadian Turfgrass Research Foundation (CTRF) is now complete, and final analysis is being prepared for August submission. Published into ATRF's annual report this November, the shade and roadside trials formerly funded by NSERC are being evaluated for final analysis.

Future: Resident turfgrass physiologist at the Prairie Turfgrass Research Center, Manuel Chavarrias, PhD is preparing for the annual call to proposals in October. The ATRF aims to fund 2-3 projects each year, in areas which benefit our diverse turfgrass community throughout Western Canada. This year, having accrued the annual contribution from 2019, we will carry over a strong investment into 2021. .

Financial Outlook:

To date, we have 38 renewed members, with more coming in every day. With business getting back to full swing (pun intended), we acknowledge the generous support of our members and partners. Contributing 100% of our profits towards turfgrass research, we are nearly half way to reaching our annual goal of 200 members. Shout out to the *Alberta Golf Superintendents Association*, and the *Sod Growers Commodity Group* for their generous contributions to kick start the spring!



Upcoming Events

Regrettably, an inability to plan and reserve event space has resulted in postponement of our biennial Research field day at Olds College. Notably, the 2020 Canadian Golf Show planned for November in Vancouver has also been postponed. We are currently investigating alternative opportunities which adhere to the Ministry of Health's social distancing protocols.

Share your project ideas! Submit them [HERE](#)

Should anyone have any questions, please check the website for your sector representative, or reach out to Jason, jpick@oldscollge.ca, or 403-556-8243

