

## President's Message February 2007

As I sit here and write my first President's message, it is difficult not to reflect upon the outstanding work that previous presidents and board members alike have done. It is certainly an indication of their passion for the golf business and the dedication it takes to be a golf course superintendent. We should all be proud of what they have done for our profession and association. They have done their part in elevating our position within the golf course industry.

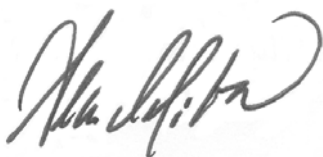
I would also like to thank you for your support of the Ontario Golf Course Management Conference and Trade Show, recently held at the Sheraton Centre in Toronto. We once again have broken all previous attendance records which is a good indication of your commitment to our industry and support of the OGSA. A special thanks also goes out to our Chairman, Jeff Stauffer and his committee for their tireless efforts in ensuring the success of the conference and trade show. I would also like to thank Dorothy Hills, the OGSA and CGSA staff for their hard work and attention to detail.

The Ontario Golf Course Superintendents' Association recently held their Annual General Meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our newest board members, Jennifer Pendrith and Randy Twyman to our team. On behalf of the membership and current Board of Directors, we look forward to working with you and receiving your valued input. It is also time to say good bye to our good friends Past President, Paul Scenna and Director, Chris Nelson. I appreciate all you have done for our association and profession, and wish you both all the best in your future endeavours.

As I look forward to the year ahead it is important to look back on our success from the past and our challenges for the future. We will be focusing our efforts on our strategic plan which was developed in 2004. The strategic plan was also reviewed and updated in the fall of 2006 to evaluate where we are now and where we will head in the future. The highlights of our year ahead will be trying to increase our affordable education opportunities for our members, a continued strong and dynamic conference and trade show, and ensuring our financial stability through our long term investment funds. We also have an outstanding golf and meetings line up and will continue to support turfgrass research at the University of Guelph. We feel both honoured and fortunate to have an excellent research facility at the Guelph Turfgrass Institute and its associated staff. We should also feel fortunate to be able to conduct local research being lead by two passionate individuals such as Dr. Eric Lyons and Dr. Katerina Jordan.

I urge you all to take advantage of our strong association and what it has to offer. As our mission statement states: "The OGSA is committed to serving its members, advancing their profession, and enriching the quality of golf and its environment". We will do our part to ensure that our membership and profession is represented in the highest regard. We, as a board, look forward to the year ahead and wish you all the best in 2007 and beyond. If you have any suggestions or feedback please feel free to contact any of the directors. We are here to serve our membership and guide our association into the future. Thank you again and I look forward to the year ahead.

Sincerely,  
Ontario Golf Superintendents' Association



Sean DeSilva  
President