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NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Canadian Turfgrass Conference in Vancouver is now over and was, we are told, a success. Two of your Board members were there — Bruce Calhoun and Geoff Corlett — and spoke with, among others, several members of the Western Turfgrass Association. In the course of these conversations, Bruce and Geoff picked up some very worthwhile ideas.

As Ernie Pecore stated in his letter to the new Turf and Recreation magazine, we have a national Canadian forum which will help to address the problems faced by those involved with the maintenance of overused athletic fields. We couldn't agree more, and wish the editor of Turf and Recreation, Rud Kendall, every success in his new venture.

The Alberta Recreational Facilities Association is working on a Sportsfield Operator 1 course for April, 1989. The course is one week long and will cover not only turfgrasses and their maintenance, but also irrigation, scheduling of fields and related activities. This is a positive start, not only to having skilled people doing the work, but also as a means of recognizing the work that they do. Perhaps it is time for the other Provinces to follow suit. Another noteworthy item is that Fairview College, also in Alberta, is offering a one-year certificate course for Turfgrass Equipment Technicians to complement

their 2-year Turfgrass Management program.

The Canadian Parks and Recreation Association has asked your Association to moderate a session at their Conference to be held at the Hamilton Convention Centre in August. The title of the session is "Trends in Sports Turf" and we have secured three excellent speakers: Dr. Eliot Roberts, Director of The Lawn Institute; Mr. Rod Thibodeau, a lawyer specializing in Athletic Field and Recreation law suits; and Mr. Bill Metcalfe, Director for Facilities for Commonwealth Stadium in Edmonton. This event promises to be a most interesting one, and we hope to include a preview of videotapes produced by your Association.

In this issue of the Newsletter you will find a profile on James Boyce. It is our intention to do a profile on a leading figure in our industry in future issues, and hope to make this a regular feature.

Lastly, mark your calendar for June 15 — our Second Annual Field Day at River Oaks Community Centre in Oakville. There has already been a great deal of interest shown in this event, so don't delay — pre-register NOW for another informative program!

Yours for better, safer sports turf,

Michael J. Bladon

WELCOME! To Our New Members

John Cotton
Municipality of the
County of Inverness

Don Harrison
Town of Bradford

Darryl Matthews
University of Guelph

Bill Murphy
Cape Breton County,
Nova Scotia

City of London
Public Utilities
Commission

**Muskoka Board of
Education**

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