

At the end of the day this is what we want to do — see happy people. We even see happy pets on a lot of our golf courses these days. This was Big Sky, actually, just this past summer. [DRAFT TRANSCRIPT ONLY]

That concludes our presentation, and we're ready for questions. [DRAFT TRANSCRIPT ONLY]

B. Bennett (Chair): Okay, thanks fellows. Thanks very much. We do have some questions. [DRAFT TRANSCRIPT ONLY]

J. Slater: Thanks guys, and I think you guys do a great job. I'm a lucky MLA. I have nine golf courses in my riding. I've played them all, and I see what the course managers do on those places. I know pink snow mould is a huge issue in the Okanagan and the Kootenays. I see in your presentation that 85 percent of the chemicals you use are actually fungicides. [DRAFT TRANSCRIPT ONLY]

Turfgrass management — as you alluded to, it's different than a back yard. A back yard doesn't get the pink snow mould. They don't get the crane flies. But you need to be able to do that at golf courses. [DRAFT TRANSCRIPT ONLY]

How much of the urban interface on golf courses actually influences your pest management on the actual course? In other words, if you get a bad neighbour, and he's got a green in his back yard, and he doesn't maintain it properly — he doesn't use the Quintozenes of the world to make sure he takes care of the snow mould — how much influence does that have on the actual course? [DRAFT TRANSCRIPT ONLY]

J. Rousseau: Not a lot, John. I think I know who you're talking about with the example you're providing, but our problems are fairly unique to the golf business. Like you say, the fungus that we deal with, you won't find too much in other areas. Of course, golf courses are in urban areas, they're in rural areas, they're in interface areas, and yes, we'll have infestations that could arguably come from a residential-commercial area — absolutely. [DRAFT TRANSCRIPT ONLY]

But mostly, I would comment, those are the weeds. Frankly, we don't care too much about the dandelions. They don't bother too many people. [DRAFT TRANSCRIPT ONLY]

S. Fraser: Thanks for the presentation. I don't know that I have nine golf courses in Alberni–Pacific Rim, but we have a lot of golf courses in the region, and I'm a very, very bad golfer. But I do enjoy it, so thank you to your members for providing that wonderful recreation. [DRAFT TRANSCRIPT ONLY]

I'm a little confused, though. We're adjudicating the cosmetic use of pesticides and looking at legislation that for various reasons — health, environmental.... We're looking at other models, other provinces. We're in a minority as far as a jurisdiction goes that does not have provincial legislation on this sort of thing. [DRAFT TRANSCRIPT ONLY]

My understanding is that in other jurisdictions that do have restrictions at the provincial level — there might be some exceptions that I'm unaware of — by and large it's not applying to golf courses. Golf courses are exempt. Yet it says in the document here that the NAGA of B.C. believes that further restrictive pesticide use legislation and regulation on a provincial level is unnecessary. [DRAFT TRANSCRIPT ONLY]

We're looking at issues, mostly urban, some urban interface, arguably, and we're looking at examples of other jurisdictions that have restrictions. You're probably exempt, based on other models of this. I mean, I don't know that. I guess we could do anything. [DRAFT TRANSCRIPT ONLY]

But you've taken a blanket statement against any further restrictions on pesticide use. You do also say that you're also asking that any further legislation