

# Now is the time to put the Kinsol over the top

**Editorial – Cowichan News Leader**  
**April 03, 2010**

It's big, it's old and it's well worth the walk.

And it is yours to enjoy for a long, long time —at least it will be if you step up to keep it that way.

It wasn't that many years ago when the Kinsol trestle was probably just a signature away from being reduced to a pile of kindling.

To the Cowichan Valley Regional District board it was a rickety roadblock in the way of the completion of the Trans-Canada Trail through our area.

To the province it was lawsuit waiting to happen.

Fortunately, to enough of you, it was a valuable landmark on the Cowichan landscape — an historic remnant of the pioneer spirit that built our community.

Local historian Tom Paterson stepped to the forefront, reminding people that the trestle was probably the largest such construction in the old British Empire. Cowichan-based heritage restoration expert Gordon Macdonald offered the expert opinion the trestle could be saved. And a cresting wave of community support won over the powers-that-be.

The CVRD is now fully behind the project. Higher governments have stepped up the table and emptied their loot bags. Powerbrokers like the IWA and Western Forest Products have also come to the table. And the project has come full circle.

Just like it was the rank-and-file of the Cowichan Valley that got the ball rolling for this worthwhile project, it must be the rank-and-file of the Cowichan Valley that closes the deal.

About \$200,000 is needed to confirm the trestle is saved. That money won't come from huge corporations or government coffers. It has to come from you, even if it is a toonie at a time.

Log on to [kinsol.ca](http://kinsol.ca) and find out how to help.