

Thumbs up/ Thumbs down

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THUMBS UP

To the people behind the restoration of the Kinsol Trestle, the 90-year old structure that crosses the Koksilah River in the Cowichan Valley. One of the largest wooden bridges in the world, the old rail trestle had been closed for 22 years, and there was always a risk that we would lose the historic gem. It will be open to the public later in the spring.

THUMBS DOWN

To the bystanders who watched a disturbed young man cause a ruckus along Dallas Road last week -but chose not to call the police. In the end, a 78-year-old suffered a broken pelvis when he was pushed off the cliff. It can be difficult to decide when help is needed, but sometimes, it's better to err on the side of caution -and let the professionals handle a tense situation.

THUMBS UP

To the Canadian Forces forensics experts who identified Pte. Thomas Lawless, which means he is no longer officially listed as missing on the battlefields near Vimy Ridge. Lawless was a 28-year-old immigrant from Ireland who died in the First World War soon after the landmark battle at Vimy. His body was found a few years ago by a road-building crew, but DNA testing failed to establish his identity. Thanks to isotope signatures in his teeth, the forensics team put a name to the remains.

THUMBS UP

To the provincial government, which is correcting a bureaucratic error made almost a century ago. About 40,000 square metres of land was taken from the Squamish First Nation in 1917, and over time was split into 14 pieces of property. The First Nation is helping transfer the title, and is working with the government on compensation for the people who have considered themselves owners all this time.

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