

# Heritage Woodworkers to rehabilitate Kinsol Trestle

By Ashley Gaudreault - Cowichan News Leader Pictorial  
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Macdonald & Lawrence Timber Framing of Cobble Hill has been hired as the timber specialist contractor to undertake the extensive rehabilitation and upgrade work that's starting in coming weeks on the historic Kinsol Trestle.

The public has been invited on Tuesday to the north end of the structure to mark the start of the labour on the colossal bridge and to get ramped up on their fundraising efforts to raise the remaining cash needed to finish the more extensive rehab work.

Cowichan Valley Regional District staff also recently updated the board on fundraising project, inclusive of funding the new walkway atop the trestle, approach work improvements, scenic viewing areas/landscaping, signage and parking improvements.

According to staff, they've got \$1,611,000 from a Provincial LocalMotion Grant, \$1,000,000 from a Island Coastal Economic Trust Grant, \$3,770,732 from a Canada/BC, Building Canada Fund Communities Grant and \$250,000 from a Trans-Canada Trail Foundation Grant, bringing the grand total to \$6,631,732 in their total of secured support.

Requirements for the majority of the grant funding approved for the project is that the cash be expended no later than March 31, which straps the Cowichan Foundation's efforts to a tight deadline, says CVRD's Parks and Trails division manager Brian Farquhar.

"A successful campaign realized by the Foundation will create a total project funding value for current and ongoing legacy work on the historic Kinsol trestle project in the order of \$7.39 million," Farquhar outlined in a report to the board. "The (Foundation) is now focused on the final fundraising campaign push over the coming months within the community to raise just over \$765,000 (of which the Foundation has already secured a small portion too date) in funding and in-kind contributions."

July 6 at 11 a.m. on hand at the trestle will be CVRD Chair Gerry Giles and Chair of the Kinsol Trestle Fundraising Campaign Jack Peake, and Gord Macdonald from Macdonald & Lawrence.

To make a donation, call 250-709-1087.