

## Trestle campaign gets \$60k boost



Dan Varga (right) presenting a \$30,000 donation on behalf of an anonymous donor to Campaign Chair Jack Peake at the Kinsol Trestle.

*Anonymous \$30,000 gift triggers matching grant funds, makes major dent in total*

**THE COWICHAN VALLEY CITIZEN**

**OCTOBER 29, 2010**

The Save the Historic Kinsol Trestle campaign has received an anonymous \$30,000 boost from a local resident who has stepped up with the largest individual contribution to date. And as with all donations at this important stage of the still active fundraising campaign, every dollar raised brings in a further matching dollar through grant funding

"A big thanks goes to our anonymous donor for making such a great leadership gift and for members of our campaign cabinet like Dan Varga for helping on the campaign," said Jack Peake, chair of the Kinsol Trestle Fundraising campaign

"The donation has triggered a further \$30,000 in matching grant funding for the project, dollar for dollar. This is just a great bonus for our donors who know that their gift immediately doubles support for the rehabilitation efforts," said Peake

While the donor wishes to remain anonymous, they did send a letter to the campaign, which said "We believe that this large project will show great long-term benefits to the Cowichan Valley, and we wish you success.

Peake says the donor is absolutely correct about the long-term benefits of the Trestle rehabilitation project

"You don't get many opportunities like this to save a great piece of our local history and create new opportunities for economic activity in our Valley right now and for years to come," he said. "We need the contributions to keep coming as the project moves ahead. And I'm confident that donations like these will inspire others to come on board.

The \$30,000 donation is the latest of a series of donations from individuals in the Cowichan Valley, including Dave Johel, Glen Harper and Duncan Mayor Phil Kent

Donations to the Save the Historic Kinsol Trestle rehabilitation project can be made on-line at [www.kinsol.ca](http://www.kinsol.ca) or by contacting Diane Myrden or Kim Martin at the Campaign Office at 250-709-1087 or [kinsol@cfcowichan.ca](mailto:kinsol@cfcowichan.ca)

A series of fundraising events are underway this fall, including the Toonies for the Trestle boxes located at businesses throughout the Cowichan Valley area

Funding for a major portion of the estimated \$7.4 million rehabilitation project has come from the federal/provincial infrastructure program, the Island Coastal Economic Trust and Trans Canada Trail. The remaining fundraising goal is \$500,000. The matching grant funding comes from amounts that have been pledged by sponsors, subject to a similar amount being raised from individual donations

The rehabilitation work began in July and will finish next spring. It will replace unsound timbers, reinforce 17 structural piers and build a new 614-foot walkway atop the structure for hikers, runners, cyclists and equestrians. The rehabilitation will ensure that the historic characteristics -- the span, height and timbered design qualities -- are preserved as the original timbers get replaced due to age and deterioration

Included in the rehabilitation project are landscaping improvements on both ends of the Trestle, a walkway down into the Koksilah River canyon to view the trestle from below, and an information kiosk that will display the proud story of the Trestle as well as the contributions of the donors who have made the project a reality

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