

Historic trestle reopening nears - Extra cash for Kinsol available, if the community can match

By Krista Siefken - Cowichan News Leader Pictorial
February 23, 2011

The Kinsol Trestle fundraising campaign still needs to raise \$275,000 in order to get matching government cash.

The work currently underway is all fully funded, but there's still more than a quarter-million dollars' worth of federal and provincial grants available for extra and ongoing work — if the community can raise a matching amount.

That work will happen either way, but if the grants aren't available it'll be spaced out over the next few years instead of happening now.

Restoration of the trestle started in July and is expected to be ready to cross on March 31. A grand opening is planned for late spring or early summer.

The \$7.4-million restoration project has included: replacing unsound timber, reinforcing 17 structural piers, and finishing a new 614-foot walkway atop the structure for hikers, cyclists and equestrians. There'll also be landscaping, a walkway into the Koksilah River canyon, and an information kiosk.

Donations to the Save the Historic Kinsol Trestle rehabilitation project can be made online at www.kinsol.ca or by contacting Diane Myrden or Kim Martin at the campaign office at 250-709-1087.