

Hopefully Kinsol success will mean more of the same

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Earlier this week, you may have read about a project to remember Duncan's long-gone Chinatown through outdoor, public photographs.

It's great to hear we're celebrating our heritage — but it would be even better if that heritage was still a tangible part of our community today.

It's with relief, then, that we heard work has already begun on restoring our historic Kinsol trestle. It's been a long road to get here, though.

A few times the Cowichan Valley Regional District even moved to tear this community gem down. Luckily for us, a concerted campaign to save the trestle means we'll never have to turn to one of our grandkids and say, "Forget it, Jake. It's Chinatown."

It easily could have gone that way, though. Just like the Duncan Agricultural Hall, or the Tzhouhalem and Commercial hotels.

Just like, most recently, Stonehaven went the way of the dodo.

Instead, we got another example of that Green Door House-style of advocacy. Another piece of Cowichan's history was saved.

To every single person who spoke in favour of saving the trestle, who donated even pennies toward its rehabilitation, take this time to pat yourselves on the back.

The work you've done has not only saved the Kinsol trestle, it heralds the way for added respect for our heritage.

Campaigns like the one to save the trestle show our leaders that we do care about our history, and more importantly, that we want to see it preserved.

Thanks to people like you, we won't have to resort to Duncan's archives to learn about the trestle, or look up old photographs.

We can just take a hike down there and check it out for ourselves.

To donate toward the last funds needed for the trestle's final touches, call 250-709-1087.