

Media Release



**For immediate release
November 9, 2009**

Kinsol Trestle gets \$250,000 boost from Trans Canada Trail *Trestle will be "jewel" in the Trans Canada Trail crown*

Duncan, BC – The dream of a linked recreational trail stretching across Canada is a step closer to reality, thanks to a generous \$250,000 donation to the Kinsol Trestle rehabilitation campaign from the Trans Canada Trail, Jack Peake, Chair of the Cowichan Foundation's Kinsol Capital Campaign, announced today.

"Completion of the Trans Canada Trail will be a fantastic achievement for this country and we're thrilled the Kinsol Trestle will be a notable part of that trail network. The Vancouver Island portion of the trail will be 200 kilometres of some of the most dramatic scenery in the world – and the Kinsol Trestle is one of the major attractions along the route," said Peake.

Designed by engineers but built by local farmers and loggers starting in 1911, the Kinsol Trestle is one of the largest and most spectacular timber rail trestle structures in the world. At 614 feet in length and standing 145 feet above the salmon bearing Koksilah River, the Kinsol is an incredible structure worth preserving for its heritage value as well as for the economic benefits the rehabilitation project will generate.

"We are delighted to be able to contribute to this very ambitious project," said Valerie Pringle, chair of the Trans Canada Trail Board of Directors. "The restored Kinsol Trestle will be one of the jewels of the Trans Canada Trail network. Through our provincial partner, Trails BC, we will be watching with interest through the construction stage and look forward to celebrating the grand opening in 2011."

The \$250,000 donation from the Trans Canada Trail will help to meet costs associated with the rehabilitation of the Kinsol Trestle, which went out of service in 1979, so that the Trestle can be a link in the trail system. The donation leaves approximately \$650,000 to be raised by the Cowichan Foundation for the rehabilitation project.

The bulk of the project costs, above and beyond the community campaign contribution, will be funded by infrastructure and economic development funding from the provincial and federal governments and the Island Coastal Economic Trust.

Donations to the Kinsol Trestle rehabilitation project can be made on-line at www.kinsol.ca or by contacting Diane Myrden or Kim Martin at the Campaign Office at (250) 709-1087 or info@cfcowichan.ca.

Detailed engineering and design work will be completed as soon as possible. This is expected to allow timber and lumber assembly and construction tendering to take place this winter and

construction to begin in the spring of 2010. The official Trestle opening is scheduled for early summer in 2011.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: Kinsol Campaign Chair Jack Peake is available for interviews on November 9. To arrange an interview, please call Dave Traynor at the numbers below.

For more information contact:

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The Kinsol Trestle Capital Campaign is spearheaded by the Cowichan Foundation, which has a long history of contributing to the social, cultural and physical improvement of communities in the CVRD. The Foundation has partnered with the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) and Community Futures, Cowichan, which is providing administrative services and a campaign office. For more information, please visit www.kinsol.ca.