Lottery winner gets to finish Kinsol Trestle

By Krista Siefken - Cowichan News Leader Pictorial March 20, 2011

This is no ordinary raffle.

The winner becomes part of Kinsol Trestle history by driving the last spike into the rehabilitated bridge.

The Kinsol Trestle Lottery is the brainchild of the South Cowichan Rotary Club, and runs until April 27.

Proceeds from the lottery go toward Kinsol restoration costs, along with a cash donation of \$10,000 from the Rotary.

"To round out their commitment, Rotary members from south Cowichan and Duncan clubs will supply their expertise and labour to source materials and help construct a trail on the north side of the trestle," a media release states.

That 400-metre trail will include three viewing platforms and wind through the trestle to the Koksilah River.

The winning raffle ticket-holder, meanwhile, will drive the last spike into the trestle during a reopening ceremony in June. The winner — and three friends — will also be the first people to walk across the rehabilitated bridge, spend a free night at the Whistle Stop B&B, and have lunch at Merridale Estate Cidery.

Second prize is a two-day trip for two on the Rocky Mountaineer.

For information about the Kinsol Trestle Lottery, visit www.kinsoltrestlelottery.info, or call John Thomas at 250-881-6351.

To make a direct donation to Kinsol restoration, visit www.kinsol.ca or call 250-709-1087.