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News Release

North Island Trails get Funding Boost.

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Port McNeill: The Vancouver Island Spine Trail is closer to the finish line with a grant of \$20,000 from the government of British Columbia. The money is to be used for the construction of some northern sections of the trail. When complete the Vancouver Island Spine Trail will cover the 700 km distance between Victoria and Cape Scott. The trail is now approximately seventy per cent complete.

"This trail will be used by hikers, mountain bikers and horseback riders up and down the island corridor. It will be a boost for local businesses also who will service the needs of the users," said Ken Milbrath, President of the Vancouver Island Spine Trail Association.

VISTA is a group of volunteers who have been constructing this non-motorized trail. The scope of the trail to be developed using this \$20,000 would be from near Woss to Port McNeill. It won't do everything in that range but it will cover much of it.

"This funding will go a long way to completing the North Island section of the Vancouver Island Spine Trail, which is the largest remaining incomplete section of the Trail," said Past President Gil Parker. "We hope to work collaboratively with the North Island College, the Mount Waddington Regional District, and the 'Namgis and Kwakiutl First Nations."

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