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Penticton hospital namesake tours David E. Kampe Tower

The new patient care tower at Penticton Regional Hospital wouldn't be the same without local philanthropist David E. Kampe.

For one, the tower is named after Kampe, thanks to the Penticton businessman's nearly \$8 million in total donations to the hospital expansion project, through the South Okanagan Similkameen Medical Foundation.

On June 13, 2018, as the David E. Kampe Tower continued to take shape, Kampe had a private tour through the new tower.

"It was a tremendous feeling to be able to tour the new tower with hospital administration. It's an honour to have my name on the tower," stated Mr. Kampe, 78. "I'm very excited about the David E. Kampe Tower and the health benefits it will provide to people living in Penticton and the South Okanagan."

Kampe, the owner of Peter Bros. Construction in Penticton, has donated a total of \$7.9 million to the Penticton Regional Hospital expansion project since 2011, when he donated a \$1.5 million property adjacent to PRH that is currently being used for staff parking.

Mr. Kampe has also made large donations each of the past three years. In 2015 he donated \$2 million toward the Patient Care Tower project; In 2016 he donated \$3 million to purchase a permanent MRI machine for PRH and in 2017 he put \$1.4 million towards the purchase of a SPECT-CT scan which allows PRH to have its own nuclear medicine department.

Construction of the David E. Kampe Tower is on schedule and on budget for an April 29, 2019 opening to the public. The six-storey tower will feature 84 new single-patient rooms equipped with their own washroom, five operating rooms, a rooftop helipad and space for the UBC Faculty of Medicine. The project also includes a new parkade.

Phase 2 work at PRH will commence in the summer of 2019 and will include renovations to space in the existing hospital to allow for an expanded emergency department and renovations to the pharmacy and material stores.

Photo caption: Penticton philanthropist David E. Kampe is surrounded by Penticton Regional Hospital administration and Interior Health staff on a recent hospital tour. From left: Leslie Gamble, clinical coordinator capital projects; Carl Meadows, health services administrator, South Okanagan; Brad Raison, PRH chief of staff; Lori Motluk, executive director, North & South OK, HCIS; Maureen Thomson, acute health services director, PRH.

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