

For Immediate Release | January 19, 2019

The countdown is on for PRH's David E. Kampe Tower

PENTICTON – There was an air of excitement today at Penticton Regional Hospital (PRH) as Interior Health, the Okanagan Similkameen Regional Hospital, the South Okanagan Similkameen Medical Foundation and the Penticton Indian Band celebrated 100 days until patients in Penticton and the South Okanagan witness the opening of the new David E. Kampe Tower.

The milestone was marked by the unveiling of a 100-day countdown clock that will signify the final days before care begins in the newest addition to the PRH campus.

“Today, we mark the beginning of the final countdown to opening the David E. Kampe Tower at Penticton Regional Hospital,” said Health Minister Adrian Dix. “It’s exciting to know that in 100 days, patients will begin receiving care in a beautiful and modern health care facility.”

Construction of the David E. Kampe Tower began in the summer of 2016. Now the new tower is set to open on April 29, enhancing patient care in a modern and comfortable six-storey hospital tower. A 480-stall parkade will also open April 29.

“We’re excited to unveil the countdown clock so that our staff, physicians, volunteers and patients can see the number of days until we open the new David E. Kampe Tower at Penticton Regional Hospital,” said Carl Meadows, Interior Health’s Acute Services Administrator for the South Okanagan. “This hospital tower is going to enhance care for the patients we treat and we can’t wait for the doors to open.”

“Patients from all across the South Okanagan region come to Penticton Regional Hospital and soon they will have a brand new health care facility where they will receive treatment,” said IH Board Chair Doug Cochrane. “When the countdown clock hits zero and we open the doors, patients across the region are going to have a world-class facility in which they will access their care.”

The David E. Kampe Tower will provide a comfortable healing environment for patients with 84 private, single-patient rooms, which will not only enhance infection and prevention control, but allow for a comfortable environment and increased patient privacy.

“The David E. Kampe Tower is an important investment in quality patient care for residents of the Okanagan and Similkameen,” said Petra Veintimilla, chair of the Okanagan Similkameen Regional Hospital District. “Being able to see the days until opening is very exciting as the David E. Kampe Tower is getting closer to becoming a reality.”

The David E. Kampe Tower will include a new ambulatory care centre which will offer a variety of specialized outpatient clinics together in one location. A new surgical services suite will feature five new operating rooms, three minor procedure rooms, two endoscopy rooms and one cystoscopy room and the tower will also feature a fixed MRI suite as well as a nuclear medicine suite.

Much of the equipment for the tower is being purchased thanks to a fundraising campaign by the South Okanagan Similkameen Medical Foundation, which is nearing its goal of raising \$20 million for the tower.

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“This is another big milestone in the construction of the David E. Kampe Tower,” said SOS Medical Foundation Executive Director Carey Bornn. “When we began our fundraising campaign in 2015, we always envisioned the opening of the tower as a monumental occasion. It’s exciting to know that in 100 days the doors to the tower will be open.”

The \$312.5 million PRH Patient Care Tower project includes construction of the David E. Kampe Tower as well as Phase 2 which includes a complete renovation of the emergency department, the pharmacy department and minor renovations to the material stores. Phase 2 design work is currently underway with construction to start this summer.

Follow the countdown clock by clicking this link: <http://bit.ly/DKTcntdn>

Follow the progress of the David E. Kampe Tower at buildingpatientcare.ca

Interior Health is committed to promoting healthy lifestyles and providing a wide range of quality health-care services to more than 740,000 people living across B.C.’s vast interior. For more information, visit www.interiorhealth.ca, follow us on Twitter [@Interior_Health](https://twitter.com/Interior_Health), or like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/InteriorHealth.