

TRACKING DOWN
TROUBLE

Angus has a nose for trouble.

In this case, trouble comes in the form of C. difficile bacteria which can cause major infection problems in hospitals and other health care facilities around the world.

Angus, a springer spaniel, is one of the stars with Vancouver-based Invictus Detection Dogs, which contracts out his services to Vancouver Coastal Health.

Angus and his handler, Jaime Kinna recently visited Penticton Regional Hospital as part of an introductory tour of selected Interior Health facilities. His PRH appearance was funded by the SOS Medical Foundation.

C. difficile can cause symptoms ranging from diarrhea to life-threatening inflammation of the colon. Illness from the bacteria most commonly affects older adults in hospitals or long-term care facilities and typically occurs after use of antibiotics.

More often than not, the bacteria is actually brought in by the public and can be transferred throughout the hospital from there, making proper hand hygiene a major key in keeping it at bay.

Angus regularly works out of Vancouver General Hospital, but thanks to a unique partnership, he has visited PRH and other Interior Health facilities this year. Using a dog to sniff out the bacteria is a method with lower impact than the more obtrusive machines that are used.

When Angus discovers a significant patch of the bacteria, he will immediately sit down and await his doggie treat reward. He may also point to a specific contaminated item with his nose and sit down and stare at it.

Whereas humans have some five million scent receptors, dogs have 250 million. “If it has an odour, a dog can find it,” Kinna said. “We’re still only at the tip of the iceberg with this program.

“Our tag line is: ‘We save lives one sniff at a time.’”



Handler Jaime Kinna and Angus, a bacteria-sniffing spaniel from Invictus Detection Dogs, recently toured Penticton Regional Hospital in search of C. difficile hot spots.

Thank you for your support!



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South Okanagan
Similkameen
Medical Foundation

Annual Report
2017 / 2018



A TOUCHING STORY

This touching story by Naramata resident Tammi Foster reflects her personal battle with cancer while undergoing oncology treatment at Penticton Regional Hospital.

Tammi Foster readily admits there's no real end to worries for cancer patients.

After being diagnosed with breast cancer in March 2015, the Naramata mother of four recently completed her final post-surgery drug treatment.

Tammi celebrated with a neighbourhood party at her home. Hugs abounded – but amid the joy unanswered questions still lurked in the back of her mind.

“You never know. I'm OK today, but there's a chance the cancer could go somewhere else. I would love to go back 36 months when there wasn't a worry in the world,” she said.

Tammi's cancer surgeries began with a lumpectomy in July 2016 followed by 26 radiation treatments at the Southern Interior Cancer Clinic in Kelowna.

However, doctors later found two small patches of lingering cancer cells which required a full mastectomy and reconstructive surgery, followed by 12 chemotherapy treatments at Penticton Regional Hospital starting in May 2017. After her chemo ended, she began another 17 rounds of treatment at PRH involving a more specific breast cancer drug. Her last treatment was on April 17, 2018.

Tammi has nothing but praise for the staff in the oncology department at PRH, who after months of treatment she got to know well. “The staff in there are great, they're awesome, they're amazing people – support, humour, professionalism,” she said. “You go in and they're all smiling. They know what you're going through – they made it so much easier.”

She also lauded the strong moral support she received from her four daughters, ranging in age from 10 to 22.

Tammi was the first Penticton cancer patient to use “cold cap” technology to greatly reduce the amount of hair loss during chemotherapy.

The cold cap machine essentially freezes the hair follicles during treatment.



It restricted her hair loss to about 15-20 percent and most people couldn't even tell she was undergoing chemotherapy.

Tammi, who sports a head of full and luxuriant blonde hair, rated the importance of her hair as “1,000 percent”. Keeping it during chemo was a huge plus – even though she had to pay for the cold cap herself.

“I got to ‘escape’ cancer. I got to walk around the streets and nobody knew I had it,” she said. “I didn't go bald and have to wear a wig.”

Although outwardly looking fine, Tammi still experienced the mental challenge faced by all cancer patients. “I had no idea of what a mental game cancer is,” she said. “I've learned so much about myself – and I'm so appreciative.”

She stops short of offering advice to new cancer patients, noting everyone is different and faces different challenges.

“It's a personal journey. Who knows what's right for you?” she said. “Just do your best – be the best person you can be at the time you're dealing with all this.”



COUPLE'S ESTATE GIFT A HUGE BOOST FOR PRH

By far our most noteworthy donation this past year was an estate gift valued at more than \$1 million.

The following article about Ed and Claire Festel generated considerable media attention throughout the Okanagan – and even inquiries from CBC Radio in Whitehorse. Their story is well worth repeating.

Northern Canada held unlimited appeal for Ed and Claire Festel.

Now the late Penticton couple's estate has directed more than \$1 million to Penticton Regional Hospital. The money was generated through the sale of an apartment building in Whitehorse that Ed left in his will to the South Okanagan Similkameen (SOS) Medical Foundation.

Swiss-born Eduard Festel passed away at age 65 in August 2016 – just two years after Claire's death in June 2014 at age 57.

The couple had no children, but plenty of friends. Fellow members with the Penticton Flying Club say the Festels' hearts belonged to the Far North.

Ed, an experienced pilot, moved to Canada in 1984 and soon purchased a wilderness lodge in the Yukon.

Long-time friend Beat Korner said he met Ed at a presentation he made in Switzerland in the early 1990s.

REPORT TO OUR DONORS

Dear Friends,

We're thrilled to inform you that in our fiscal year ending March 31, 2018, more donations were received by the SOS Medical Foundation than ever before, resulting in total revenue of \$8,529,482. Through this Report we wish to say THANK YOU and provide a summary of how your generous donations were used.

This Annual Report shares stories that provide a glimpse of how your support makes a difference in people's lives. In addition, it provides a summary of revenue and expenses of the Foundation during our 2017/18 fiscal year and our Campaign Report which highlights the progress of the Patient Care Tower (David E. Kampe Tower) campaign.

Large invoices for the purchase of medical equipment for Penticton Regional Hospital's new tower have started to come in. We wrote cheques for \$5,034,644 for medical equipment during the past fiscal year. \$4.5 million of that total was allocated for equipment going into the new tower and the remainder went to medical equipment for various healthcare departments in Penticton, Summerland, Oliver, Keremeos and Princeton.

We also THANK those who give so generously of their time with service clubs and hospital auxiliaries. Members of these organizations volunteered in various capacities through fundraising events, thrift stores, and a number of activities resulting in \$742,040 in donations!

We are now only a few months away from the opening of the David E. Kampe Tower on April 29, 2019. There is noticeable excitement at the many weekly planning and transition meetings. Also, plans for the upgraded Emergency Department (Phase 2 of the PRH project) are only weeks from being finalized. The SOS Medical Foundation will use a considerable amount of funds raised to provide medical equipment for that part of the expansion as well.

The Medical Foundation continues to focus on reaching our original \$20-million fundraising goal which will provide the medical equipment for the new tower. We are also working with site administrators from all medical facilities within the South Okanagan Similkameen, to hear of their most urgent needs and newest technology requests. We can then provide you with an opportunity to express your generosity and help achieve our Mission Statement to support "the achievement of excellence in the delivery of health care services to our region."

Thank you,



Gerry Ryan
Chair
SOS Medical Foundation



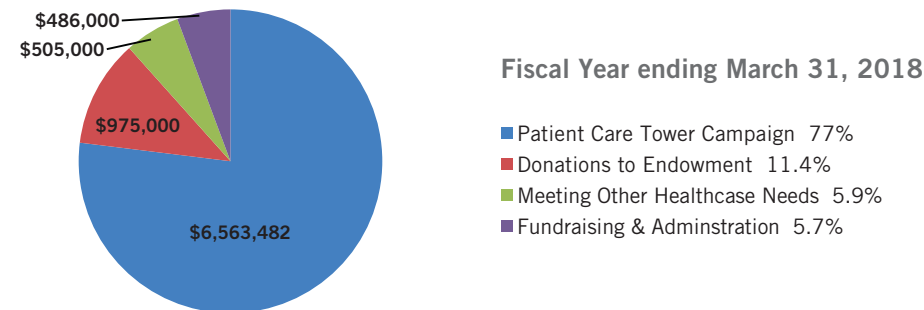
Carey Bornn
Executive Director
SOS Medical Foundation

South Okanagan Similkameen Medical Foundation

Fiscal Year End Report, April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018

We are pleased to report revenue for our fiscal year ending March 31, 2018 of \$8,529,482. Revenue came from donations of \$7,444,632 and interest and other income of \$1,084,850. The pie chart below illustrates how monies were used or designated during this time period.

The current Patient Care Tower Campaign is where the largest percentage of donations are being designated. It is important to note that \$505,000 was donated to healthcare needs in Summerland, Oliver, Princeton, Keremeos as well as other needs in Penticton such as extended and palliative care.

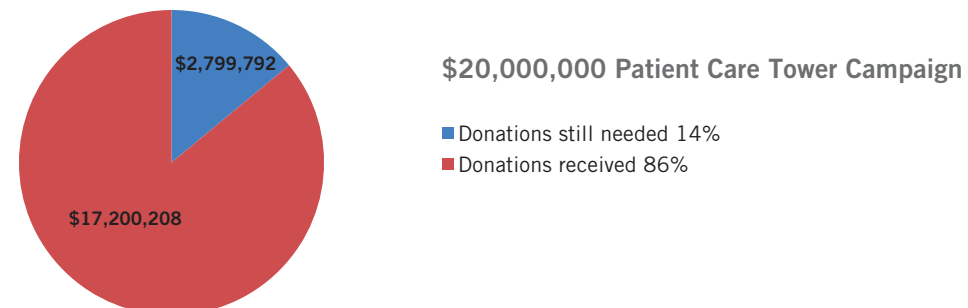


Patient Care Tower Campaign Financial Report

As of July 31, 2018

It is overwhelming how generous our communities have been in support of improved healthcare in the South Okanagan Similkameen. Since the inception of our Tower Campaign in 2015 we have raised \$17,200,208. This figure, combined with the \$4.4 million which Mr. David Kampe added to our campaign to include the new MRI and a SPECT-CT for Nuclear Medicine, brings us to a grand total of \$21,600,208.

The BLUE area represents the balance we have to raise. With \$2,799,792 left to meet our original \$20-million goal we are proud to be on the home stretch! We value your continued support to enable us to meet our commitment of funding the medical equipment and other required items for the new tower along with the upcoming renovations to the PRH Emergency Department.



PENTICTON PHYSICIANS STILL A DRIVING FORCE BEHIND PRH EXPANSION

The passion Penticton area physicians have shown for Penticton Regional Hospital still runs deep.

The doctors played an integral role in the community-wide lobbying campaign for the new PRH patient care tower five years ago and continue to show their support.

The Penticton Regional Hospital Medical Staff Association is donating \$125,000 to the South Okanagan Similkameen Medical Foundation's PRH campaign on behalf of the 125 doctors in the organization.

Each physician has been contributing annually through their association from 2015 through until the end of 2018. Some are also making personal donations in addition to this group endeavour.

"This hospital was built in the early 1950s, so constantly there are issues with inadequate space," said Dr. Jacqueline Stewart, president of the Medical Staff Association. "The facility is really aging and the doctors felt very strongly that we need this new tower for our community."

Dr. Stewart said the physicians are solidly behind the SOS Medical Foundation's \$20-million campaign to supply the medical equipment for the new tower.

"We felt it was important to show that we are committed to providing financial support," she said. "We also want to motivate the public and make people aware that money is still needed (for the foundation's campaign) to cover the costs of all the equipment the new facility will need."

The new tower will provide immediate benefits for patients, Dr. Stewart said. "It's going to be night and day. I think this is going to be quite an amazing facility."

She pointed to the 84 individual patient rooms, compared to the existing situation where up to four patients must share a room. Outpatient clinics will also feature much more elbow room in the new tower, instead of having some patients wait in hallways prior to their procedures.



PRH CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

As construction of the David E. Kampe Tower at Penticton Regional Hospital nears completion, several things strike you while touring inside.

Expansive windows bring in a lot of natural light; single patient rooms will provide privacy and help infection control; large operating rooms will give doctors and nurses exceptional working space.

The new patient care tower is being named for Penticton business/philanthropist David Kampe who had a private tour on June 13, 2018.

“It was a tremendous feeling to be able to tour the tower with hospital administration. It’s an honour to have my name on the tower,” stated Mr. Kampe. “I’m very excited about the hospital expansion and the health benefits it will provide.”

Mr. Kampe, owner of Peters Bros. Construction, has donated a total of \$7.9 million to PRH since 2011, when he gifted a \$1.5-million property across from the hospital that is currently being used for staff parking.

When it opens next spring, the new tower will modernize health care for people throughout the South Okanagan Similkameen.

“It’s obviously a complex undertaking to plan and construct a six-storey hospital tower as an addition to the existing Penticton Regional Hospital,” said Michael Morton, Interior Health’s project manager. “Crews are hard at work to make sure everything gets done on time.”

The first floor will include a permanent MRI suite (thanks to a \$3-million donation from David Kampe), as part of the medical imaging department. MRI’s, with their intense magnetic pull, need to be housed in a fully protected room. A thin sheet of copper lines the inside of the walls and ceiling, as the MRI suite is built like a room, within a room.

The second floor features a series of large operating room theatres, along with the urology suite, itself lined with lead as a protective measure. The third floor features expanded space for the UBC Faculty of Medicine along with a consolidated Medical Device Reprocessing department that cleans and sterilizes surgical equipment.

Floors four through six will be home to 84 single patient rooms, each with their own bathroom. The seventh floor is a mechanical room and on top of that sits the helipad, drastically improving PRH’s ability to transfer patients.

The new tower will open for patients on April 29, 2019.



DAVID E. KAMPE TOWER

“He built Frances Lake Wilderness Lodge on Frances Lake in the eastern part of the Yukon,” Korner recalled. “There was an old Hudson Bay Company trading post on Frances Lake. He dismantled some of the cabins and rebuilt them on his property – a beautiful location in a bay with tiny islands there in the Tungsten Mountain range.”

In addition to the lodge, Ed ran wilderness kayak/canoe tours down the Yukon and Teslin rivers as well as dog team excursions.

Claire was born in Gaspé, Quebec and later moved to the Yukon where she at first became involved in the mining industry. She met Ed in 1994 while she was applying for a job with Tourism Yukon in Whitehorse. They quickly discovered they shared a deep passion for the North and married in 1998. Claire even operated her own trap line for a few years.

“She was a pretty cool lady,” added friend Don Hudgeon. “She wrote a book ‘Remarkable Yukon Women’ (featuring stories and portrait artwork of 50 women and their unique lives in the North). She interviewed them all.”

Ed and Claire went on several excursions to the High Arctic, including a trip to remote Banks Island next to the Beaufort Sea.

Ed sold the Frances Lake Lodge in 1999. However, he continued to own a 23-unit apartment building in Whitehorse, even after he and Claire moved to Penticton in 2009.

In the Okanagan, Ed quickly became an active member of the Penticton Flying Club and helped resurrect the local branch of the volunteer Civil Air Search & Rescue Association (CASARA) which helps search for missing aircraft and other emergency situations.

Marcel Siegenthaler, a fellow Flying Club member who has helped administer the estate, said the bequest Ed left in his will reflects his true character – someone generous with his time and talents.

Support for PRH Tower Campaign still GREATLY needed

Please continue to be part of our \$20-million Patient Care Tower equipment campaign. With over \$2.5 million still to be raised, EVERY gift counts.

To donate, call the SOS Medical Foundation at 250-492-9027, stop by our office next to the PRH main lobby, visit our website at www.sosmedicalfoundation.com or mail donations to:



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