

Hello everyone

We hope all of you are finding time to take in some of the pleasures of a Manitoba summer.

Based on our experience of working on the International Centre on Dignity and Palliative Care (ICDPC), Shelly, George and I felt inspired to develop an idea related to ICDPC; and are contacting you to get your initial thoughts and impressions.

First let me introduce you to a platform known as Open IDEO ([openideo.com](http://openideo.com)), which describes itself as a 'global community working together to design solutions for the world's biggest challenges'. One of the latest challenges OpenIDEO posted is called, "How might we reimagine the end-of-life experience for ourselves and our loved ones?" I think you can see why we saw ourselves drawn to this initiative!

Our idea, which is described in the attachment, brings together designers of spaces intended for people dealing with end-of-life and the users of those spaces. We would like to create a global repository of design ideas (architecture, landscape design, interior design, occupational design); and an online community for those building or remodeling or repurposing healthcare spaces for people with advance illness approaching end of life. Thinking back to our experience in the functional planning of ICDPC, we knew it was critical that this repository be open to patients and families, who could provide their input regarding what works, what doesn't work, and how to make these spaces the very best that they can be.

Whether one plans to build a hospice, a palliative care unit, or refurbish a room in a healthcare facility in rural Manitoba, why must everyone start at square one? This repository would ensure that everyone has access to the best information in the world, ensuring that the spaces we create for people nearing end-of-life can be the very best that they can be.

In the next few pages, we have mapped out our idea; and want to know what you think. Does the idea seem compelling? Well laid out? Easy to understand? Do you have any suggestions that might improve what we are proposing? OpenIDEO liked our idea well enough that they selected it, amongst hundreds of applicants to move to the next 'refinement' phase.

Your feedback will inform those refinements. We need to hear back from you no later than Wednesday, July 27, 2016. Please send your comments to:

[Harvey.chochinov@cancercare.mb.ca](mailto:Harvey.chochinov@cancercare.mb.ca)

As always, please know that your help and insights are deeply appreciated. Who knows, perhaps this platform will bring new ideas, which will inform the building of the International Centre on Dignity and Palliative Care!

Harvey, Shelly and George