Universal design is described as the design of an environment which can be accessed and understood by all people regardless of their ability, disability, age, or size. Buildings or product design should be adaptable to accommodate a wide range of users with diverse abilities. We use this approach for a multitude of different reasons. For instance, we are avoiding segregation and stigmatization of certain users who provide the same resources for all people. This concept may seem challenging to achieve while maintaining beautiful design, but during this research you will see some of the most beautiful designs are flexible for various abilities.

"Universal Design is good design!"

When applying Universal Design to a space or structure, our design is a design that is easily understood and experienced with no limits. This is commonly important when applying to homes for those who may be limited in mobility. It creates a demand for flexible and independent living, which can help reduce the risk of falling, reduced hearing or vision, restricted mental processing capabilities. This is incredibly important when applying to homes for those who may be limited in mobility, independence. Currently, most senior persons are living alone or with one other companion in their own home. This creates a challenge for those individuals within their environment, or are equipped with changes that come with age. By making changes to make the appropriate additions to their home will therefore grow with them, and continually improve their quality of life.

In conclusion, I implemented universal design in a recent project for a client who was looking for a new addition to their home, so they could be more comfortable and more independent. Currently, most senior persons are living alone or with one other companion in their own home. This creates a challenge for those individuals within their environment, or are equipped with changes that come with age. By making changes to make the appropriate additions to their home will therefore grow with them, and continually improve their quality of life.

"Aging in place, becomes incredibly important for those individuals when their environment is not equipped for changes that come with age. By making changes to make the appropriate additions to their home will therefore grow with them, and continually improve their quality of life."

In conclusion I implemented universal design in a recent project for a client who was looking for a new addition to their home, so they could be more comfortable and more independent. Currently most senior persons are living alone or with one other companion in their own home. This creates a challenge for those individuals within their environment, or are equipped with changes that come with age. By making changes to make the appropriate additions to their home will therefore grow with them, and continually improve their quality of life.

To begin creating a space for our client we needed to determine the outer most space before the interior planning began. It was essential for the addition to be a consistent reflection of the current home. We maximized the views and minimized the degradation of their land. The addition would be one level with an open concept but maintaining privacy.

**Furniture Floor Plan**

**Technical Floor Plan**

**Front Exterior Rendering**

**Back Exterior Rendering**

**Conceptual Elevations**

This rendering is a visual representation of what the existing home on the left would look like with the new addition on the left. My client is a very Eco-friendly family that wanted to maximize their land with appropriate orientation and building materials. Keeping their Scandinavian style was a very important request, and kept the integrity of their new space.

This rendering is another angle of how the addition will look attached to the existing home. I felt that showing my client a visual image of their new space would create a better sense of how these new changes should be implemented. This helped us work out spacing issues as well as architectural logistics.

**SPECIFIC REQUESTS FROM THE CLIENT:**

- Plumbing fixtures incl. W/D should be clustered in NW so the plumbing runs are short.
- South wall angles from current house at 120 degrees, perhaps with pit for water tank, skylights.
- Wood windows (Andersen triple pane)
- Green metal roof
- Slanting shed style roof
- In-floor radiant heat.
- In-floor radiant heat.
- Six inch external walls
- Starting shed style roof
- Wood windows (Andersen triple pane)

**DESIGN REVISIONS MADE BY CLIENT**

- If the addition is widened, then it doesn't necessarily have to be as deep as planned as we looked at your plans that perhaps it was too deep that there was wasted space.
- We very much like the angles on the wall, particularly a straight-out from the back wall and then angling thereafter, and the angle is definitely appropriate for the south wall and could be for the north as well.
- We went back and forth about the enclosed toilet, and i've come to believe that it doesn't need to be enclosed by walls but could have movable closet, storage, shelves discreetly at the side that provide flexibility for the future.
- We're also hoping for a heated towel rack near the shower, but that's a much smaller detail.
- If you'd like to share further drafts, please know that we are available. We are enjoying this process so much and really delighted by your thinking.

If you'd like to share further drafts, please know that we are available. We are enjoying this process so much and really delighted by your thinking.

If the addition is widened, then it doesn't necessarily have to be as deep as planned as we looked at your plans that perhaps it was too deep that there was wasted space.

We very much like the angles on the wall, particularly a straight-out from the back wall and then angling thereafter, and the angle is definitely appropriate for the south wall and could be for the north as well.

We went back and forth about the enclosed toilet, and i've come to believe that it doesn't need to be enclosed by walls but could have movable closet, storage, shelves discreetly at the side that provide flexibility for the future.

We're also hoping for a heated towel rack near the shower, but that's a much smaller detail.

If you'd like to share further drafts, please know that we are available. We are enjoying this process so much and really delighted by your thinking.