

Hello everybody

For those of you who don't know me – my name is Freddy Blak. I am a member of the Regional Council of Region Zealand.

For those who know me – you know as well that it is easy for me to speak when I need to get something off my chest.

And I do today.

Even though a lot of you already know me – I have a secret that only few people know: I have a lot of children.

Of course I have Thomas and Helle. But I have a lot more. Two of them are called InnoCan and Changing Cancer Care. Those are my babies!

I have had a long career in politics and I have approved a lot of projects. Really a lot!

I can honestly say that only a handful has been as important as InnoCan and Changing Cancer Care.

More and more people get cancer. The cause is that the population is getting older – and thank God for that. You have to die of something when you are a hundred years old.

But not only old people get cancer. So do mothers. And fathers. And children. Luckily, there are many survivors – but all who have had cancer in their lives know that it is an absolutely horrible disease.

So of course, it makes me proud that our university hospital in Næstved has become a part of a cancer test center due to the InnoCan project. A test center for new, innovative treatments for cancer.

We are world leading in the development of cancer treatment. That is fantastic!

Just as fantastic is the collaboration that made it possible, not least with the good people in Lübeck and other forces in Denmark and Germany.

Denmark is a small country – and we must not believe that we can do everything on our own.

So this Inno-Can-baby is the product of a happy marriage with the Germans.

At the moment we face another challenge: More cancer patients creates more expenses. I honor the principle that we must give all patients the best treatment no matter the costs.

But it doesn't take a genius to figure out that it puts a strain on our health care system. We are simply forced to improve our skills towards diagnostics and treatment, if we want to treat everybody properly.

This is exactly the purpose of my second baby – the project “Changing Cancer Care”.

Both projects are vital for our welfare system. Both projects make a difference!

I have followed my babies since the first time we approved the projects in the Danish-German Interreg-collaboration. And I have been very proud all the way.

Now they have grown and they are about to move away from home. Thanks to you, Niels Henrik Holländer for taking such good care of them.

If it is okay – I hope to stop by and visit them every once in a while.