Now that those are no longer options, here are a few things that I thought could maybe work:

- Believe that you can influence the construction process and not have to live the same day over and over.
- Take a more integrated project delivery approach that brings all parties to the table, way before bid date.
- Invest in more robust and detailed pre-construction meetings.
- Understand the value of trained and certified sub-contractors. Compare apples to apples and understand you get what you pay for.
- Stop value-engineering important things. Understand how a dollar spent in preventative measures will save hundreds of dollars in potential repair costs.
- Implement a quality management system that does root cause analysis and employs corrective action. Understand why the issue happened, how to correct it and then make sure it does not happen again.
- Mock-ups – the crash test dummy for buildings. Understand sequencing, material compatibility, trade scope, responsibility and create a standard to be met.
- Site verification and performance testing. The final test to verify we met performance expectations.

There are many more things that can be added to this list, but ones I feel stick out to me. I have seen the integration of these solutions on a number of projects and have been amazed at how smoothly things have gone.

So, we have a choice to make. Do we continue to live the movie Groundhog Day? or learn from our experience to make things better and no longer live with the status quo.

Apparently, the Groundhog saw his shadow this year, so that means I’m stuck with some more cold Manitoba weather and snow. It’s been six weeks of this, and I am pretty sure I’m living the Manitoba version of Groundhog Day!

As I began to think about what I could do to change things, I took a few things off the list to start:

- Stealing Punxsutawney Phil
- Binge eating
- Driving a car down railroad tracks
- Learning Piano