

**A CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS PRESENTATION
LEGACY WORK OF INDIGENOUS ELDER**

WILLIAM COMMANDA

2021 CAN JAN 17 FB LIVE VIDEO EVENT

**CAN Facebook Live Video Event
Session 1: New Year Online Gathering
Romola V. Thumbadoo, PhD
Coordinator, Circle of All Nations,
SSHRC Postdoctoral Research Fellow**

**Research Associate Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre
Carleton University Romolavt@circleofallnations.ca**

2021 CAN FB LIVE VIDEO EVENT Jan 17, 1 – 3.30 pm

SYNOPSIS OF AGENDA

SESSION ONE: JANUARY 2021

A Most Special GEO COSMIC MOMENT at the Dawning of the Age of Aquarius
New Year, New Beginnings, First Steps in the CAN 2021 12 Month FB Live Video Workplan

From Kindergarten Dropout to Honorary and Researched Indigenous PhD:
Bridging relationships and knowledge generation amongst Indigenous, grassroots, non-government organizations, governments, academics and corporate structures in a globally connected world under unprecedented crisis

Theme for the CAN On-Line Gathering

Building Bridges and Creating Hope and Community in a World on Fire and in Global Isolation:
William Commanda, The Seven Fires Prophecy, *Ginawaydagnuc* and the Indomitable Laws of Nature and Life

Creating a Global Blueprint for an Inclusive Journey Forward, Individually and Collectively – Is this possible?!



1.00 Welcome and Greetings and Opening Prayer:

Image

Text

Translation

“Densification”

JANUARY Session Priorities

Ideological foundations:

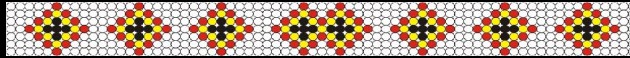
- Relationship with Nature
- Self Reflection
- Identity
- Storytelling
- Art
- Dreams
- Canoe and the Journey of Life

1.30 Live Chat with Special CAN Colleagues

Live Chat with Students

3.00 Live Chat with You! Colleagues and Public at Large.

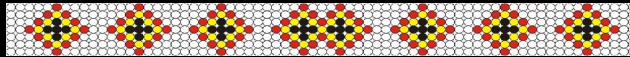
3.30 Closing



Grandfather William Commanda Legacy 2020
A *Circle of All Nations* Geo Cosmic Prayer and Reflection

Iconic symbols of importance to the William Commanda worldview are incorporated in this image:
Grandmother Moon and Morning Star, invoking the spirit of fire, enlightenment and the cosmic;
Asin and the *Sleeping Giant* commemorating Earth creation in rock;
Air, wind, movement animating water life emergent from the oxygen rocks of the *Kichissippi* Ottawa River,
Birch, wolf, eel and turtle honouring evolution, plant and animal life, Turtle Island and
Canoe acknowledging the ultimate nurturer, Mother Earth, and symbolizing the enigmatic *Journey of Life*

Graphic created by Miduran Murugathasan for *Circle of All Nations*
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Heritage de Grand-Père William Commanda
Un cercle de prière de réflexion Génomiques de toutes les Nations.

Des symboles emblématiques d'importance pour la vision du monde de William Commanda sont incorporés dans cette
Grand-Mère la Lune et es Étoiles du matin, invoquant l'esprit de feu, d'illumination et de cosmique;

Astin et le Giant endormi commémorant la Création Terrestre dans la roche:

L'air, le vent, le mouvement animant la vie de l'eau émergent des roches et de l'oxygène du Kichissippi rivière des

Le bouleau, le loup, l'anguille et la tortue honorant l'évolution, la vie végétale et animale.

L'île de la Tortue et le canoé reconnaissant l'ultime nourricier, la Terre Mère, et symbolisant le voyage énigmatique de la vie.

Romola@circleofallnations.ca



A CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS OJIGKWANONG PRAYER

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WILLIAM COMMANDA, INDIGENOUS ELDER, WAMPUM CARRIER, HON PHD, OFFICER OF THE ORDER OF CANADA



THE LEGACY OF ALGONQUIN ELDER
L'HÉRITAGE DE L'AÎNÉ ALGONQUIN

Dr. William Commanda, OC

11.11.1913 - 03.08.2011

*"We must come together
with one heart, one mind, one love,
and one determination to create
A Circle of All Nations
A Culture of Peace."*

*"Nous devons nous unir avec un seul
cœur, une seule âme et une volonté
pour créer un cercle de toutes les
nations et une culture de paix."*

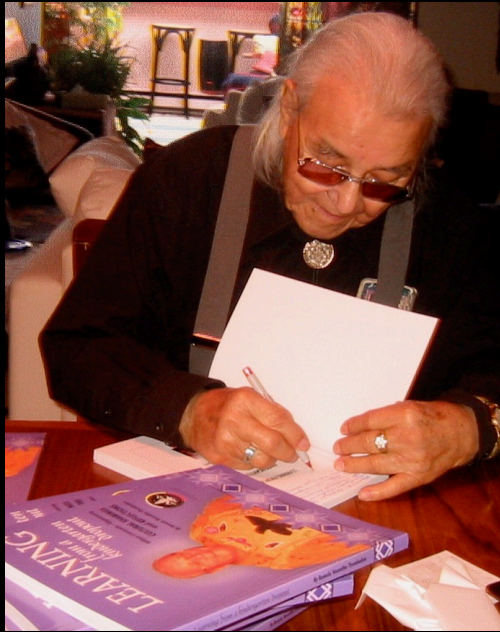


A CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS
A CULTURE OF PEACE

www.circleofallnations.ca www.asinabka.com



KINDERGARTEN DROPOUT, PEACE (LMT), MOTHER EARTH (VI), HON PHD



WILLIAM COMMANDA, CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS AND SUSTAINABLE RELATIONSHIPS

- THEMES

- **IDEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS**

- Canoe/Kayak Journeys
- Sustainable Relations
- Laws of Nature and Human Animals
- Nature/Tectonic Abrasion/Evolution/Peace
- Circle of All Nations Bridge Building
- Kindergarten Dropout PhD and OC
- Spiritual Trajectory to Knowledge
- 2020 Digital Mapping Retrospective and Reflection
- GINAWAYDAGANUC UBUNTU – All is Related

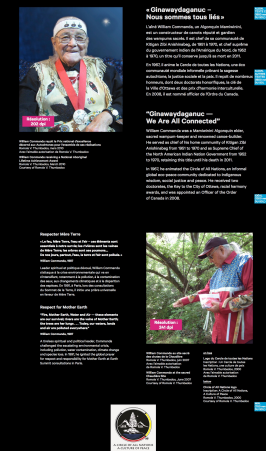
- **ANIMATIVE ACTIONS**

- 1945 Activism and Politics – as in Civil Rights!
- 1967 Canada 100; Eganville Gathering
- 1969 Gathering: Kitigan Zibi/Bitobi Lake
- National to Global – 1987, 1991, 1993 – ME and CC
- Agenda 21: Sustainable Development *1
- Sunbow Five Walk 1995 /96
- 1996 RCAP Report – Who will Drink the Water?*
- 1996 CAN Gatherings and Non-stop Outreach
- 2000 GlobalEcoPeace Posters and Gathering
- 2006 Waterlife Workshop; Sustainable Relations*2
- Asinabka Legacy Vision for Sacred Chaudiere Site

WHO IS WILLIAM COMMANDA?

- Carrier of sacred **Wampum** heritage
- Renowned birch bark **canoe maker** and craftsman
- **Political Algonquin leader**, elder, chief, chief the North American Indigenous Nations Government
- Founder of the **Circle of All Nations, a global eco-peace-community** dedicated to advancing environmental stewardship and racial harmony
- **Officer of the Order of Canada** and recipient of two **honorary doctorate degrees**
- University of Ottawa Chancellor Michaele Jean (GG) created **Commanda Hall** in recognition of his relevance to **academic knowledge in 2014**
- **Canadian History Hall : Commanda panel and message**

William Commanda, Ojigkwanong
(Étoile du matin – Morning Star)

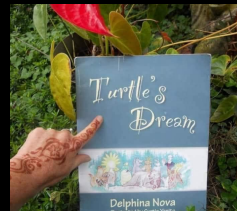


SPECIAL CAN FRIENDS LIVE CHAT

GrandeOurs Big Bear Ron
Goddard-Fournier

Winnie Stubkjær Laursen

Delphina Nova



Keeping Earth Spirits Alive



met at a predetermined meeting place and played follow the leader through quiet back roads of the Ottawa countryside to Bourget. It was a fairly sunny day, not too warm or cool, for this year's Sweet Grass Harvest Teaching's with Ron 'Grande Ours' Goddard, and another Alma Lo, Nancy Myatt, Lise Menard and several people interested in receiving the teachings. Once we arrived at our destination, a lonely gravel and dirt road with trees on one side and a high grasses on the other, Ron and his friend tied two flags together, the Mohawk Warrior Flag and one I had never seen. It was white (symbolic of the Great Peace) and yellow (as of the Spring sun) with brown snowshoes criss-crossed with a canoe (our ways of transportation). He told us it was the flag of his ancestors when all Algonquin nations were at peace with one another. He told us the flags are bound together during every outing to symbolize the Great Peace of the Algonquin and Mohawk Confederacy. Grandmother Alma Lo is of the Tuscarora Nation/Mohawk Confederacy. The symbolism of peace was not lost on me. We were experiencing it by coming together from different nations, countries and backgrounds for this gathering and teaching activity.

We sang some honor songs and Ron said a prayer to the 4 directions. We then walked to the grassy ditches and got a crash course in what sacred sweet grass looks and feels like. It's easy to pick regular grasses thinking they are sacred sweet grass and the experienced members of the group helped us by checking our harvest periodically and weeding out the bad grasses (pun intended). After a couple hours we all had at least a good fistful of sweet grass harvested, so we loaded back into the cars and played follow-the-leader again. This time our destination was a beautiful park in Casselman. There we spread the sweet grass out in the sun to dry while we feasted, conversed and got to know each other a bit more. After the feast we received Ron's sweet grass teachings and learned how to make our braids. As some of us received the teachings, others were already busy braiding and singing traditional songs. With a little imagination I could believe that we were in a pre-Columbian campsite learning as our Ancestors did before us. Braiding wasn't easy for me, newbies and in the time it took me to make one braid, the more experienced members of the group had several braids completed. My first timers were very proud of our very first braids.

It is imperative that we understand the teachings and uses for the four (4) sacred plants, not to mention all other plants Creator has given us. Wherever possible we should use these natural medicines instead of the man-made poisons offered to us as medicines today. Our ancestors knew how to use each part of the plants that grow wild around us to keep themselves strong and well.

I hope that Ron 'Grande Ours' continues these yearly Sweet Grass teachings for a very long time. We need people like him that keep the old knowledge alive. More importantly, I hope that there will always be someone to take his place as teacher when his time to teach has passed. If the valuable information that was once more common knowledge becomes lost, I fear that as a people will have lost a very fundamental part of ourselves that will be extremely difficult to regain.



Written By: Diana Muse-Larose
August 2011

A FEW OF MY SPECIAL ENCOUNTERS WITH NATURE





"We are not all equal" by Dilara Erver, Carleton University

© Circle of All Nations

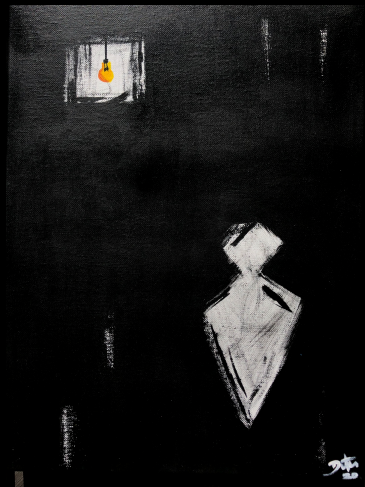
July 2020 contribution to the Circle of All Nations commitment to a Culture of Peace, inspired by Learning from a Kindergarten Dropout William Commanda Ojigkwanong Cultural Sharings and Reflections (R. V. Thumbadoo) during times of global climate change, pandemic, isolation, racism and social justice crisis

DILARA ERVER PAINTINGS ARTICULATING KINDERGARTEN DROPOUT BOOK

"The Third Party"

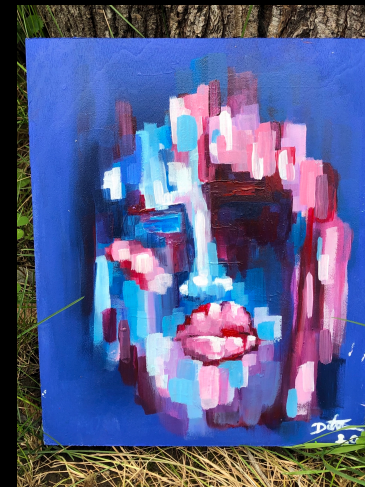
When you live around or/and in violence, anywhere but the source of the violence is darkness. For the ones that want to make a change, simply step out of your perspective to see how YOU look like from the perspective of the third party, at the moment when you were witnessing the violent event. Later, let your human nature to express empathy to figure out which way to go.

Also, this is not to expose anyone. I realized this only recently. I instantly felt horrible for all the times I had done this on accident. But, although it can't change the past, I think it is always better to feel regret for the past than to live blind.

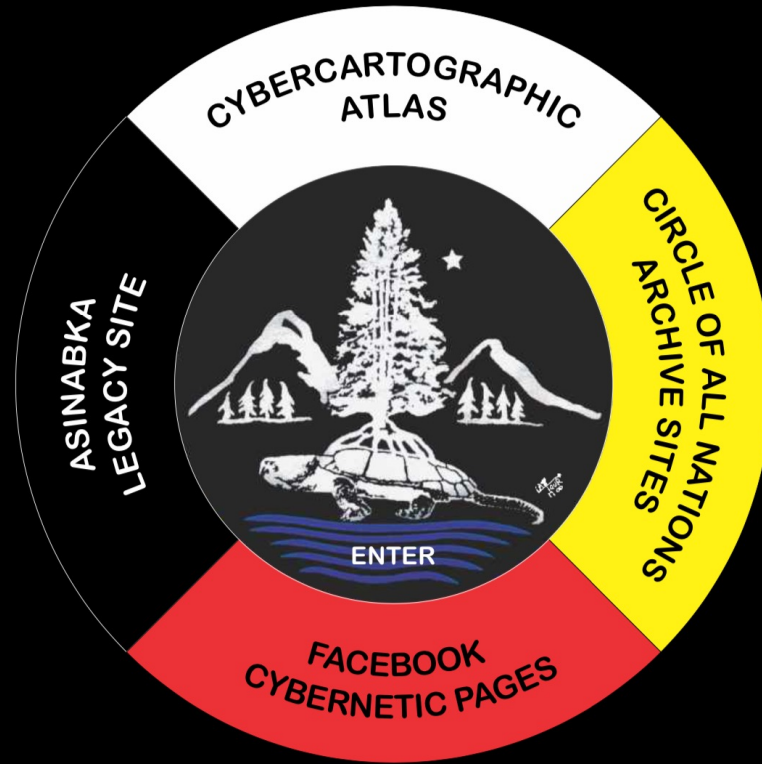


"A Suppressed Woman"

I took a break from painting and she is the first I have done since my break. I initially started the painting thinking how to paint the abuse towards Mother Earth. The challenge I set to my self is only using 2 colours, so just blue and red and the rest is generated with white and black. I feel like the reason some call it "Mother" Earth gives it a feminine expression, and I am not here to talk about the gender of nature. I am here to talk about how I find the mindset that is so abusive to the women, children and to people of other races so similar to the ignorant (and thus abusive) manner towards Mother Earth. And thats what this piece is about.



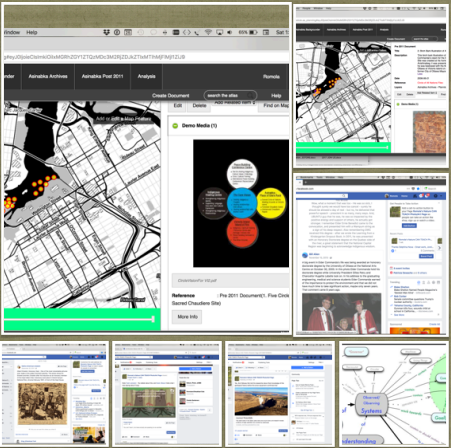
Circle of Life: Donald Marshall Junior



WILLIAM COMMANDA LEGACY
A CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS
GLOBAL ECO PEACE COMMUNITY

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CYBERCARTOGRAPHY, CYBERNETICS AND ENCORE VIVANT WILLIAM COMMANDA!



CYBERCARTOGRAPHY
Ancient Knowledge Base and Contemporary Application

More than a decade ago, D. R. Bruce Taylor, Director of the Center for Geographic Research (GCR) at the Carolina University, the academic pioneer in the field of cybercartography, wrote that this technology would see cartography applied to a much wider range of topics than had traditionally been the case. "It will also utilize an increasing range of emerging media, forms and telecommunication networks such as the Internet and the World Wide Web. It will be a multidimensional cartography using multimedia formats and is more likely to be an integral part of an information package than a stand-alone product. Cybercartography will also be highly interactive and engage the user in new ways. In organizational terms, it will see new partnerships being created between national mapping organizations, the private sector and educational institutions and the products of cybercartography are likely to be compiled by teams of individuals from very different disciplines and professional perspectives working together." (Taylor and Dyn...



William Commanda
August 3 at 5:40 AM · 🌐

Special Day - It was 8 years ago around this moment that Grandfather William Commanda began his next Journey - remembering him and his social life and outreach and the family and friends and Circle of All Sons who animated his work - ever grateful for his example and inspiration and his energy which still embraces all of us. I wondered what photo would present this morning - well, here it is! More later!



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12 People Reached 1,760 Engagements Boost Post

CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS CONTACT DETAILS

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Circle of All Nations, William Commanda, William
Commanda Legacy Asinabka, Romola's Nature CAN TEACH

Thumbadoo, R.V. (2018). *Ginawaydaganuc and the Circle of All Nations: The Remarkable Environmental Legacy of Elder William Commanda* PhD Thesis. Ottawa. Carleton University. <https://curve.carleton.ca/aa4e3cbb-5b83-464d-8286-a901fcd77b06>