

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

WILLIAM COMMANDA

2021 CAN JUNE 20 PRESENTATION
WIND VOICES 2021 SERIES

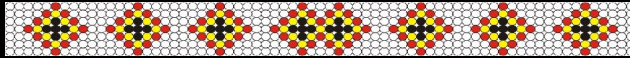
Romola V. Thumbadoo, PhD

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SSHRC Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Research Associate Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre

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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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A Circle of All Nations OJIGKWANONG PRAYER

Grandfather William Commanda Legacy 2020
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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 image:

Grand-Mère la Lune et les Étoiles du matin, invoquant l'esprit de feu, d'illumination et de cosmique;

Asin 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

2021 CAN Wind Voices 2021 Series

SYNOPSIS OF AGENDA

And Solstice 2021 Legacy For Hope Animation

Backgrounder Romola
Elder William Commanda
Circle of All Nations
Studies

Discussion Comments and Questions



21 June Solstice 2021

The Journey Continues
Past the Rapids

Circle of All Nations
Reaffirmation

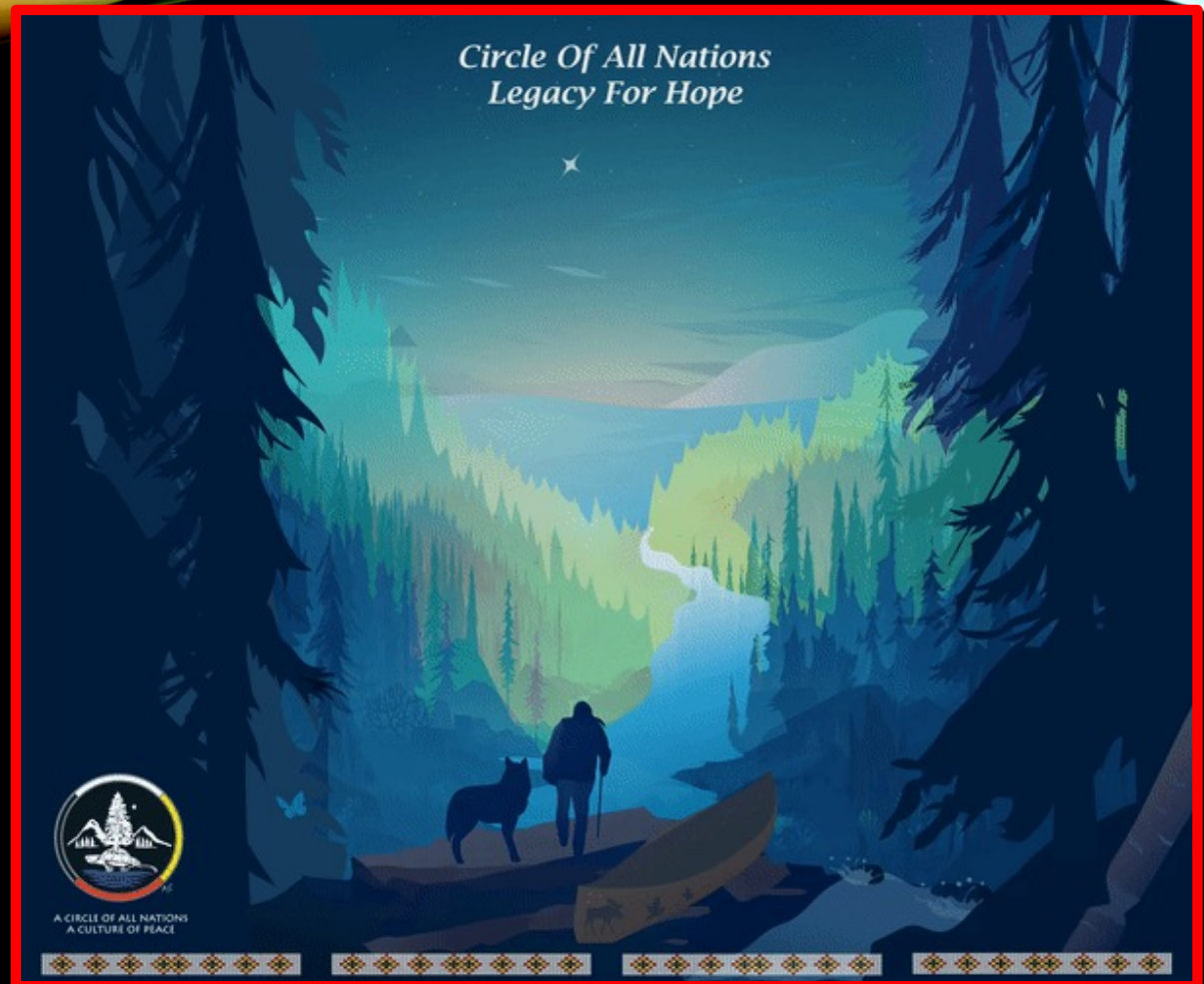
Legacy For Hope

animated by

Grandfather William Commanda
Indigenous Elder
North America

Created by Jenny Nguyen
Carleton University

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BRIDGE BUILDING FOR SYSTEMIC CHANGE

I met Elder William Commanda in 1997 and have supported all his work since

My background

- From S. African; East Indian ancestry; Studied literature; then worked in a half-way house for federal offenders
- federal public servant working in Aboriginal Justice
 - 1980s – decade of Aboriginal **Justice Inquiries** across the country
 - The post OKA land rights era; Post also Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples; New Federal Legislation in Canada
 - Aboriginal Corrections Strategy – Aboriginal Peoples in Federal Corrections and coordination of the Prairie Region Strategy
 - Native Liaison Officers, Elders, Aboriginal Staffing Strategy, Cross Cultural Training, Healing Lodges
 - Task Force On Federally Sentenced Women – Okima Ochi Healing Lodge
 - First Nations Tri-Partite Policing Policy; Urban Aboriginal Policing – and first Forum ('96)
 - Aboriginal Justice Strategy – and Aboriginal Justice Learning Network (AJLN)
- I quit government to support Grandfather and CAN pro bono in 2001
- In 2012 I returned to school to leave a record of his work and legacy

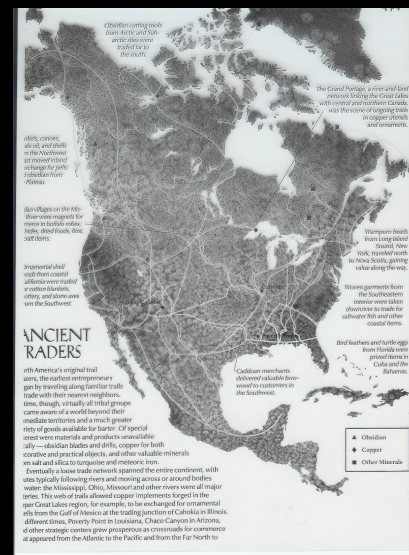
INDIGENOUS MAPPING TURTLE ISLAND GREAT MYSTERY'S CREATION — ADAPTED FROM CAN 2004 PRESENTATIONS



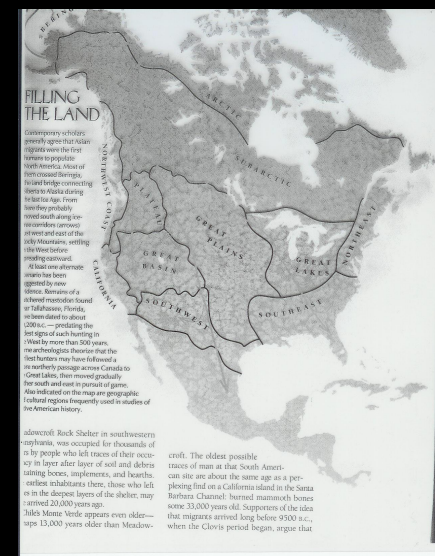
Yoshi Turtle - Purposeful movement on land and water



Artist Arnold Jacob's interpretation



Mamiwiniwini Travelling freely across Turtle Island



North America as we call it now

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

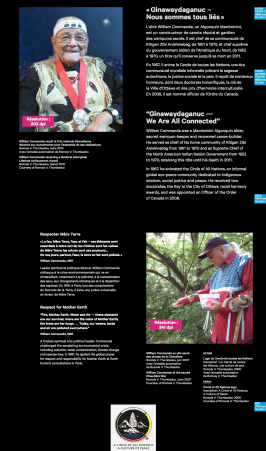
www.circleofallnations.ca www.asinabka.com



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)



WHAT'S RELIGION, WHAT'S SACRED AND WHAT'S SPIRIT? CARRIER OF THE WAMPUM

Gathering & Sharing

CAN Gathering



Deep Reflection

Contemplation and teaching



Teaching

Sharing with South Africa



NORTH AMERICAN INDIGENOUS NATIONS GOVERNMENT

The Government of the
North American Indian Nation




In Their Letters—

The Directors of this provisional National Indian Government appeal to all the Indians who want to see their rights and privileges protected and their freedom recovered; you must give your full support immediately to the Directors of this National Indian Government without fear and hesitation.

Every Indian understand and knows that he has rights and privileges, and the reason why they are not respected is because you are not united and not administrate by Indian Directors; but today we ask you to unite around the same National Indian Flag, and this National Indian Government will take the full responsibility to have your rights and privileges respected and to obtain the Freedom of the whole Indian Nation; but has long the Indian people unite together; the way to unite together around the same National Indian Flag is by obtaining your Indian Identification Card and to learn how to stand erect its to call for the New Indian Law Book; same by this National Indian Government.

The North American Indian Nation
GOVERNMENT 11 NOV 1945
 This identification card indicates that

 File No. 42.

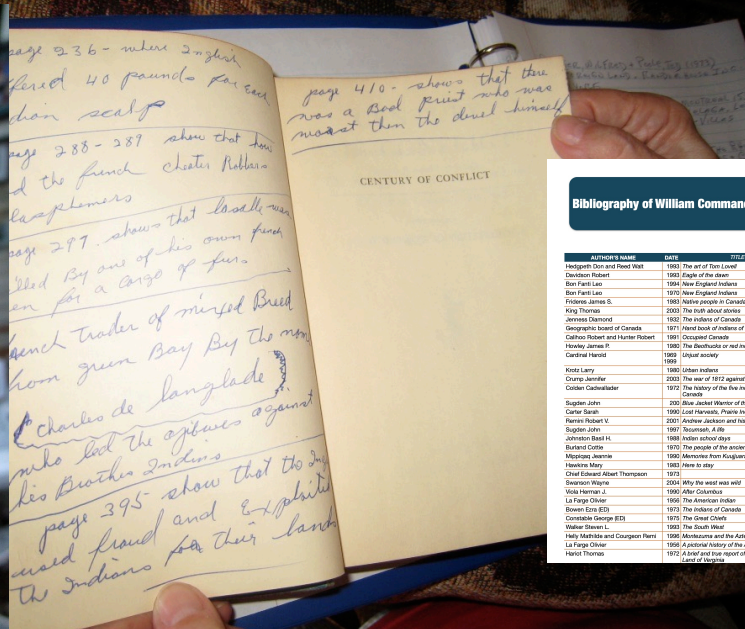
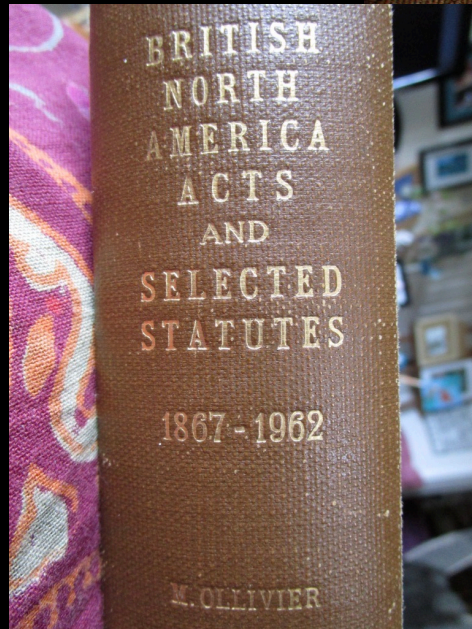
Mrs. William Bonneau
 is a member of the Maniwaki band of the Algonquin
 Date and year of birth 11 November in 1916. 1916
 The County which he reside Gatineau district
 The Province of Quebec The County of Canada
 made by Jules Sioui, sec.
Box 4,
JULES SIOUI
 SEC.
 Box 4 - Loretteville
 Quebec, P.Q., Canada



CIVIL RIGHTS AND THE NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN NATIONS GOVERNMENT

- Exactly as the United Nations was taking shape in the mid forties, so was Jules Sioui uniting and developing the voice and presence of the First Peoples of North America – and asserting this directly to the Secretary General Trygve Lie (from Norway; he held office from February 1946 to his resignation in November 1952)
- William Commanda became actively engaged, and in the fifties became the Supreme Chief of this NAING – just because we could not find mention of Jules Sioui in the Indian Affairs library does not mean he did not lever the **rights movement** of North American– and he was a political prisoner too – whose life was drained by his 78 day hunger strike, held without warrant in the end till William Commanda secured his release
- Sadly the efforts of 30 years were betrayed – but still, the seeds for civil rights were planted by the blood, sweat and tears of Indigenous, decimated though they had been by the multiple trails of tears across North America

SAMPLING OF THE WILLIAM COMMANDA'S RESEARCH

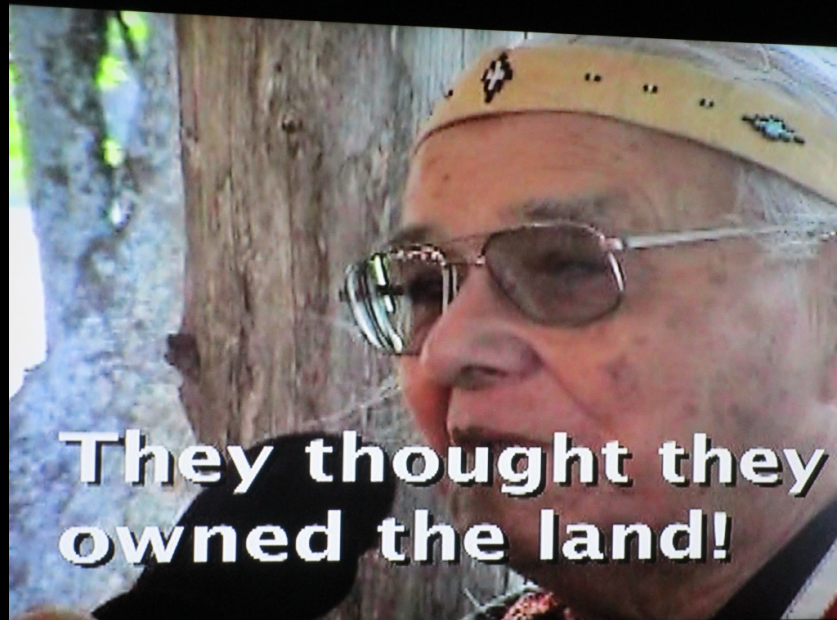


Bibliography of William Commanda

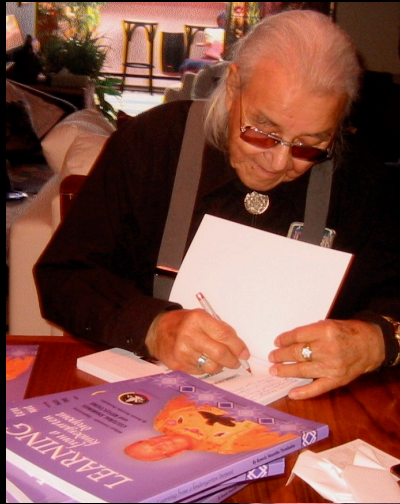
List of books he read

Author Name	Date	Title	Subject	Pub. house	Place Published	Classification
Madgett Dale and Fred Cook	1935	The art of Tom Lead	An Indian in history	William Stone and company	New York	Native History
Dawson Robert	1963	Eight of the dead		Douglas and McIntyre	Vancouver	Native History
Don Fair Lee	1994	New England Indians	Biographies and legends, Vol II	Phila publication inc.	Burlington Maine	Native History
Don Fair Lee	1970	New England Indians	Biographies and legends, Vol I	Phila publication inc.	Burlington Maine	Native History
Freese James S.	1989	Native people in Canada	Contemporary contexts	Prentice Hall Canada inc.	Scarborough	Native History
King Thomas	2003	The north about 1800	A native narrative	House of Anansi press inc.	Toronto	Native History
James Diamond	1932	The Indian of Canada		University of Toronto press	Toronto	Native History
Geographic Board of Canada	1971	Native people of Canada		Cole publication Company	Toronto	Native History
Clifford Robert and Harter Robert	1981	Occupied Canada		McClelland and Stewart inc.	Toronto	Native History
Shaw James D.	1982	The Beothicks on the island		House of Anansi press inc.	Toronto	Native History
Clifford Robert	1989	Urban society		Douglas and McIntyre LTD	Vancouver	Native History
Kozel Larry	1980	Urban Indians		Harry Publishers LTD	Edmonton	Native History
Clump Jennifer	2002	The story of 1872 against the State		Indiside publishing Canada LTD	Camrose, Can.	Native History
Cosden Catherine	1972	The history of the five Indian nations of Canada		Cole publication Company	Toronto	Native History
Suggs John	2002	Blue Jacket Warrior of the Shawnee	Farmers and government policy	University of Nebraska Press	Lincoln Nebraska	Native History
Carroll Sarah	1998	Lost Harawa: Pacific Indian Reserves		McGill Queens university press	Montreal	Native History
Reyes Robert V.	2001	Andrew Jackson and his Indian Wars		Penguin Putman inc.	New York	Native History
Suggs John	1997	Reynolds, a life		Henry Holt and Company inc.	New York	Native History
Johnson Basil H.	1988	Indian school days		King Porter Books LTD	Toronto	Native History
Burford Colin	1970	The people of the ancient Americas		Harvard Publishing group	Toronto	Native History
Milopov Jeanne	1986	Adventures from Engadmark		Cultural Institute	Peaback, Nunavut	Native History
Freestone Mary	1983	Home to stay		McGraw Hill	Ottawa	Native History
Chief Edward Albert Thompson	1972			Penguin Publisher	Winnipeg	Native History
Swanson Wayne	2004	Why the west was wild		Fire Fly Books	Richmond Hill	Native History
Yield Norman J.	1950	After Columbus		Crown Publishers inc.	New York	Native History
La Forge Othar	1960	The American Indian		Crown Publishers inc.	New York	Native History
Evans Eric EIS	1973	The Indian of Canada	Text by Clayton Dayneen	Times Life Books inc.	Alexandria Virginia	Native History
Conventer George EGJ	1975	The Great Chiefs	Text by Clayton Dayneen	Times Life Books inc.	Alexandria Virginia	Native History
Walker Steven L.	1993	The South West		Canyonlands Publications	Baltimore Arizona	Native History
Daly Mathews and Gurgan Hans	1998	Abenaki and An Adick		Henry Holt and company inc.	New York	Native History
La Forge Othar	1959	A pictorial history of the American Indian		Crown publishers inc.	New York	Native History
Spaul Thomas	1975	A brief and true report of the New Found Land of Virginia		Dover publication	New York	Native History

**1492 - COLUMBUS ARRIVES WITH POPE
ALEXANDER VI BULLS AND EDICTS**



**KINDERGARTEN DROPOUT,
PEACE (LMT), MOTHER EARTH (VI), HON PHD
CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS: CAN BRIDGE TEACHING
AND LEARNING APPROACHES!**



THE WELCOME OF THE ALGONQUIN PEOPLE OF THE EASTERN SEABOARD TO THE NEWCOMERS

Re-Affirmed in 1968



And Repeatedly Thereafter



WELCOME TO ALL OTHERS, INCLUDING GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

His Holiness, Dalai Lama President Nelson Mandela The Queen Elizabeth

Welcome in Montreal - Ancestral Home



Welcome: Human Rights Tribute Ottawa



Welcome with Coronation Medallion 1952





Sunbow Five Walk

25th Anniversary Commemorative Poster of the Journey



"I told them that it was time. I told them to look around the world at the floods, the earthquakes, the unexplained diseases, the hatred, and all of that. I told them it was time to walk."

- Grandfather William Commanda PhD, DC, Wampum Belt Carrier, Canoe Maker, and Founder of Circle of All Nations

The Sunbow Five Walk for the Earth was a spiritual pilgrimage from east to west on Turtle Island (North America) to reenergize the land that had witnessed bloodshed and to awaken the 8th Fire, consistent with the Seven Fires Prophecy presented in the 1400s Wampum Belt that Grandfather Commanda carried. The Walk commenced at First Encounter Beach on the Atlantic Coast. Amongst the Anishinabe, there were seven prophets who each shared messages about the future. The 7th prophet spoke of people facing the choice of two paths, interpreted as that of materialism and spirituality, which we currently face globally. Should the road of spirituality and respect be chosen, this would ignite an 8th Fire that precludes an era evolving around forgiveness and caring. In the early 1990s during the 7th Fire, Grandfather Commanda saw this as an opportunity to kindle the 8th Fire. The 225 days that spanned the Walk in 1995 and 1996 saw a multiracial and multispiritual group of 7 to over 200 walkers journey from First Encounter Beach, Cape Code, MA to the Western Gate at Point Conception, near Santa Barbara, CA. Tom Dostau plotted the route. The word 'Sunbow' refers to a natural phenomenon of full rainbow circle appearing around the Sun and a symbol of hope, while the number 5 refers to the five colours of human beings (Yellow, Red, Black, White and Brown). Naoko Hitomi photographed a cloud feather of hope in the Sky.

There were a few events that led up to the walk that were seen as signals. On the international stage, Grandfather Commanda led a small Algonquin delegation alongside six other Native American groups to the first UN Conference on Indigenous Peoples in 1993, which they called the Cry of the Earth. However, when Grandfather saw the lack of understanding of the united message presented, he saw it as a sign to organize a prayer walk to reach out to the people directly. Furthermore, in August 1994, another sign of the chaotic and confused nature of the era requiring a walk to raise awareness and unite people, appeared in the form of a white buffalo calf. These two events amongst other symbols and visions that appeared to individuals, increased the urgency for the Sunbow Five Walk.

The 3,700-mile pilgrimage welcomed people of various walks of life for different lengths of time. The group passed through several places of conflict including the Pequot Massacre (1st Indigenous war in North America), the Trail of Tears, and Martin Luther King Jr.'s Assassination; as well as sites of intense environmental damage such as Acushnet River with toxic substances like PCBs and Mount Taylor's uranium mine. At these locations, ceremonies and prayers were held to bless the land, water bodies, and living beings, while also praying for forgiveness. There were also individuals, First Nations tribes, and environmental, religious, and social justice groups who meet with the walkers to share their stories, history, and teachings. As foreseen by Grandfather in a vision he sketched at the beginning of the Walk, tensions arose in the form of leadership, gender inequality, and high physical and emotional stress. This led to three factions that struggled to both dominate and unite. For many the Walk remains an evolving journey. The spiritual pilgrimage concluded in Santa Barbara, the site of the most notorious of missions, Grandfather's daughter, Evelyn Dewache, and Chumash leader Liz Dominguez, immersed the Seven Fires Prophecy Wampum Belt in the Pacific Ocean. The walk resulted in increased communication, awareness, and respect for Mother Earth and all living beings while spawning many other walks globally for years to come and the next Commanda influential activity, the Annual Spiritual Gatherings, at his home on Bitabi Lake, from 1996 to 2011.

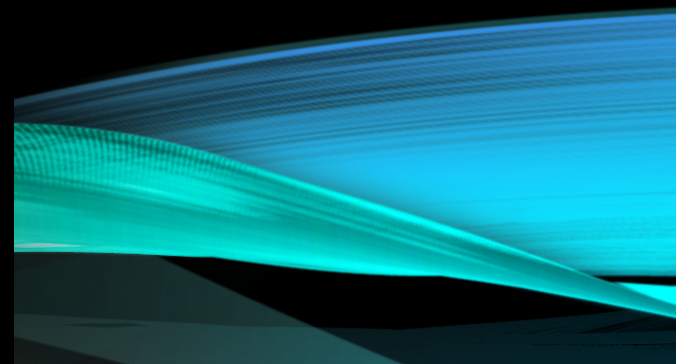
"You must walk together and you must forgive and love each other. It is the only way that this walk can work. You must make a sacrifice. Even if someone has done something wrong, love them. You cannot cast them out of the circle. That is not the way."

- Grandfather William Commanda PhD, DC, Wampum Belt Carrier, Canoe Maker, and Founder of Circle of All Nations

Reference: [Odyssey of the 8th Fire](#) (Steven McFadden) and William Commanda's Archives (R.V. Thumadoo)



LIFE TIME
LEARNER!





DIGITAL GLOBAL VILLAGE - INTEGRATING KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS

- Integrating Indigenous Grassroots NGOs Governments and Academia
- **Bridge building to integrate diversity and affirm common purpose**
- Finding our rightful and places on the penultimate provider, Mother Earth, with respect, responsibility and reverence
- Embracing our common heritage as cosmic beings
- ***Ginawaydaganuc – It is all inter-related and All is Connected***

CYBERCARTOGRAPHY, CYBERNETIC GUIDANCE, FB LIVE: ENCORE VIVANT WILLIAM COMMANDA!

CYBERCARTOGRAPHY
Ancient Knowledge Base and Contemporary Application

More than a decade ago, Dr. R. Bruce Taylor, Director of the Center for Geographic Research (GCR) at the Catholic 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 informative 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 special life and outreach to the family and friends and Circle of All Nations 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!

7,712 People Reached 1,760 Engagements [Boost Post](#)

BOOKS, VIDEO AND SOCIAL MEDIA

- **Prolific Communications**
- **Karen Bisson** – our lead with our Graphics Design work and www.asinabka.com
- Late Normand Champagne created our first William Commanda book of Birthday Reflections in 2003
- We wrote two **Learning from A Kindergarten Dropout Books**, and one on my Kayaking Summer at his Lake – **Passionate Waters Butterfly Kisses**
- Several folk created **documentaries** on William Commanda – Lucie Ouimet (NFB), Valerie Pouyane, Jeremy Wright, Patrick Gravel and Jean Lettelier – and CBC and others
- William Commanda remains a vibrant presence on Facebook – with FB algorithms reminding all regularly about his his timeless messages
- Since the onslaught of Covid, FB technology has enabled us to animate a **CAN Digital Global Village** – and leave a record of our work for the public

A FEW VIDEO LINKS

- **Good Enough for Two Clip**

From the canoe video (Valerie Pouyanne)

- <https://youtu.be/JArzmp9pQPI>

-

- **2020 Circle of All Nations Commemorative Video**

- <https://youtu.be/qVLKwKa-oi4>

CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS MEDICINE WHEEL

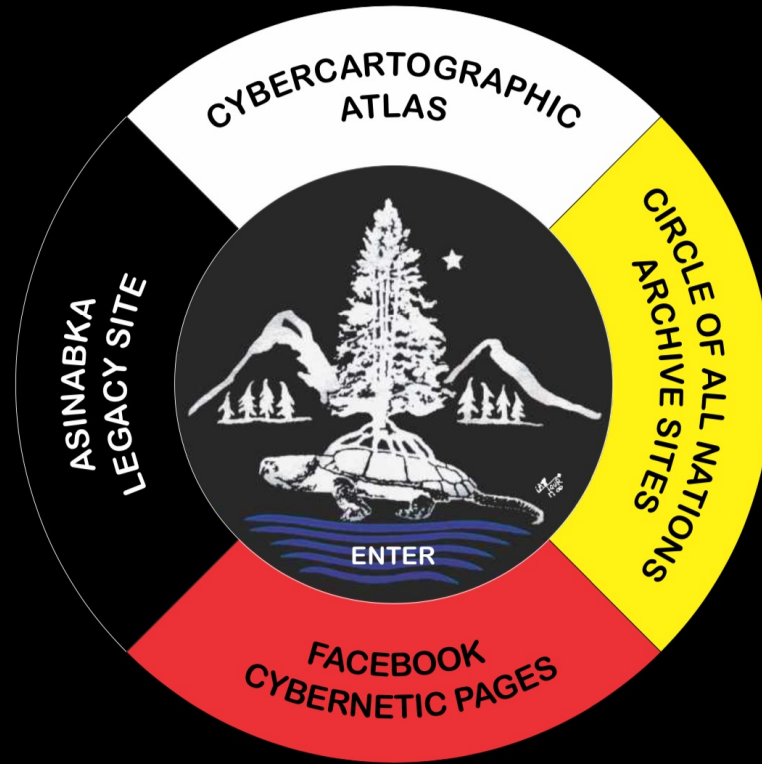
10 Minute excerpt from Circle of All Nations Presentation to

Climate Coaching Alliance Global Webinar March 2021

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O5B_FqqtV1s&t=17s

The entire 90 minute video is available at our Circle of All Nations Utube Channel (together with other CAN and Facebook Live Video Events

Circle of Life: Donald Marshall Junior



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

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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>