

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

**WILLIAM COMMANDA**

## **2021 CRITICAL BORDERS STUDIES CONFERENCE**

**The Line Crossed Us 2021: New Directions in Critical Border Studies**

***Reflections on Discourse, Discursive Elements & Semiotics in Systemic Change***

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# RECONCILING CONUNDRUM AND COMPLEXITY IN TIMES OF GLOBAL CRISIS

- **THEME ONE - GEOCOSMIC AND MOTHER EARTH and Ginawadaganuc and The Border Crossing Belt:** Interconnection and Borderlessness (3 – 14)
- **THEME TWO - HISTORICAL CHALLENGES and The Seven Fires Prophecy journey,** injustice, and Cartesian duality and borders creation (15 – 19)
- **THEME THREE - POLITICAL ACTIVISM AND INDIGENOUS ASSERTION and The Three Figure Indigenous Wampum Welcome** of Algonquins of the Eastern Seaboard 1492, North American Indian Nations Government, Indigenous Rights across Turtle Island, Reuniting First Nations, Sunbow Fire Walk (20 – 27)
- **THEME FOUR - FULL CIRCLE TO THE RAZOR'S EDGE** – Covid; Attenborough 2021 Planetary Boundaries and the Tipping Point; and the Missing Wampum Belt (28 – 38)

# INDIGENOUS MAPPING

## TURTLE ISLAND GREAT MYSTERY'S CREATION

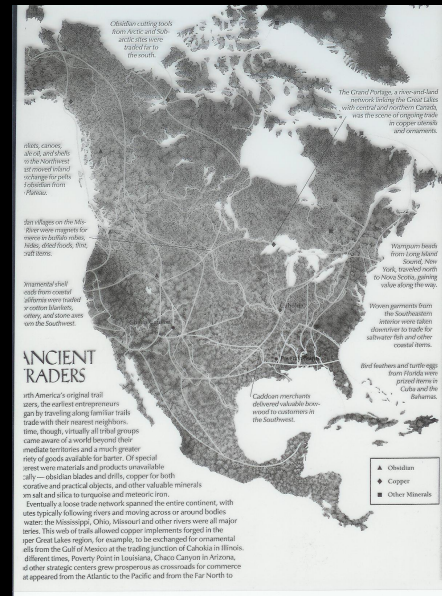
— ADAPTED FROM CAN 2004 PRESENTATIONS



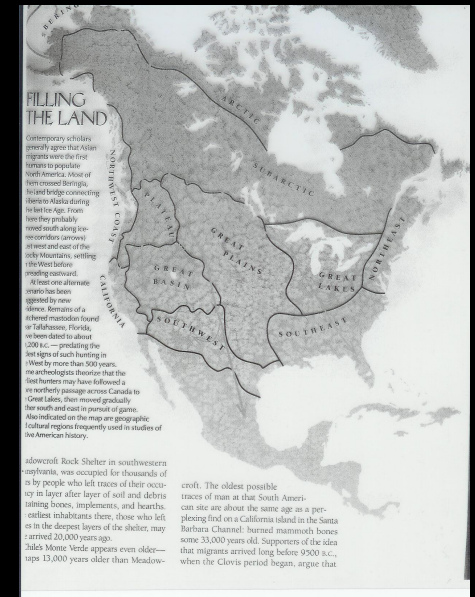
Yoshi Turtle - Purposeful movement on land and water



Artist Arnold Jacob's interpretation



Mamiwiniwini Travelling freely across Turtle Island



North America as we call it now

# FROM WILLIAM COMMANDA “KINDERGARTEN DROPOUT” (2000) TO DAVID ATTENBOROUGH (2021)

- 2000 “I am in the earth, wind and waters. I am as the bird flies and the wind blows and the water flows; yes, North America, that’s me”
- 1987 Aboriginal Constitutional Conference: fire (nuclear), earth, water and air are polluted :“...remedy it before the end of time”
- Opened 1993 United Nations Cry of the Earth First Indigenous Conference
- 2021 Breaking Planetary Boundaries – The Science of our Planet - from Holocene to Anthropocene - Global Warming, Biosphere, Water, Nutrient Loss - and now, at the Tipping Point - David Attenborough
- William Commanda, *Ginawaydaganuc* and *Law of Nature* interconnectedness reasserted in times of global pandemic, contagion and isolation

# 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](http://www.circleofallnations.ca) [www.asinabka.com](http://www.asinabka.com)



# WHO IS WILLIAM COMMANDA?

- Carrier of sacred **Wampum** heritage of the Algonquins
- 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 Carleton, Ojigkwanong Centre** in recognition of his relevance to **academic knowledge- 2014;**
- **Canadian History Hall : Commanda panel and message**

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



«Ginawiyagwanong –  
Nous sommes tous liés»  
C'est dans l'histoire et la culture autochtone, et en particulier dans la tradition du wampum, que se trouve la clé pour comprendre la signification de la cérémonie de la nuit du 20 septembre 2014 à Ottawa. Le wampum est un objet sacré qui a été utilisé pendant des siècles pour transmettre des messages importants. En 1981, le wampum a été utilisé pour célébrer le centenaire de la Confédération canadienne. En 1997, le wampum a été utilisé pour célébrer le centenaire de la Confédération canadienne. En 2014, le wampum a été utilisé pour célébrer le centenaire de la Confédération canadienne. En 2014, le wampum a été utilisé pour célébrer le centenaire de la Confédération canadienne.

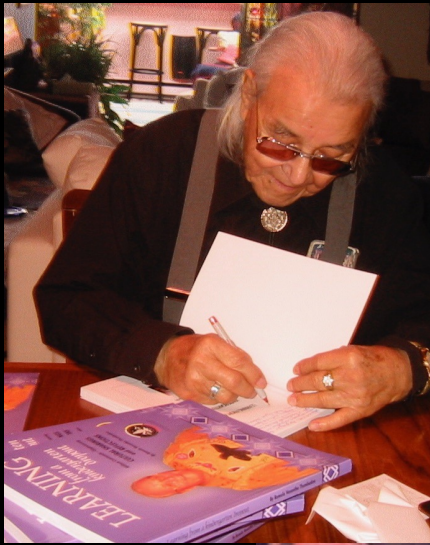
«Ginawiyagwanong –  
We Are All Connected»  
William Commanda is a traditional Algonquin elder, chief, and craftsman. He is the founder of the Circle of All Nations, a global eco-peace-community dedicated to advancing environmental stewardship and racial harmony. He is an Officer of the Order of Canada and recipient of two honorary doctorate degrees. He is the founder of the Circle of All Nations, a global eco-peace-community dedicated to advancing environmental stewardship and racial harmony. He is an Officer of the Order of Canada and recipient of two honorary doctorate degrees.

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

Indigenous Wisdom.



Peace.

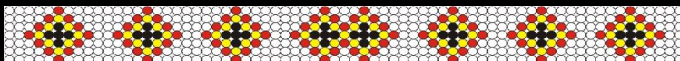


Prayer for Land.



Knowledge.





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 Murugathan for Circle of All Nations  
© Romola@circleofallnations.ca



## A Circle of All Nations OJIGKWANONG PRAYER The Laws of Nature The Intelligence of Nature

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



# BRIDGE BUILDING FOR SYSTEMIC CHANGE

I met Elder William Commanda in 1997 and have supported all his work since  
My background then – federal public servant working in Aboriginal Justice

- 1980s – decade of Aboriginal **Justice Inquiries** across the country
- The post OKA era; Post also the RCAP; New Federal Legislation
- 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)

# 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



# **A CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS A CULTURE OF PEACE**

- Elder Commanda led the AJLN April 1997 Elders Gathering – and we partnered thereafter in efforts to both challenge injustice and build bridges – I now continue with the effort in the academy and online, to leave a record of his thinking and this work
- It is sad and shameful that so little has transformed with respect to Justice for First Peoples and the land over the decades
- And now we have to look across at the graveyards of thousands of **Residential School Children** – First Children and Ancestors too of Turtle Island; the Hate Killing of a Moslem Family; and a national anti-Asian racism conference
- WHAT are the **BORDERS that separate us in this horrific history over time and space?**

# WILLIAM COMMANDA, CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS (CAN) AND SUSTAINABLE RELATIONSHIPS

## CORE CAN 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
- CAN Sustainable Relations Goals for a Culture of Peace

### • 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
- 2003 - Asinabka Vision for Sacred Chaudiere Site
- 2012 ... GWC and CAN in ACADEMIA – Bridge Building and Global Outreach

# ORGANIC MOTIONAL IDENTITY MAMIWININI

- I am **Mamiwinini** – We travel every day
- Body in Motion like the Cosmic – critical for cognitive functioning
- Reserves deprived people of this “brain power”
- But William Commanda was **Body in Motion – Unconfined and borderless**
- **Canoe was his Teaching Tool and metaphor for the Journey of Life \***
- Reaffirmed in the fight for the protection of the **American Eel** – and the pivotal paper to ignite Species at Risk protection in 2008
- This theme was re-presented in the 2017 International Anthropology Conference at University of Ottawa that honoured WC and profiled Movement

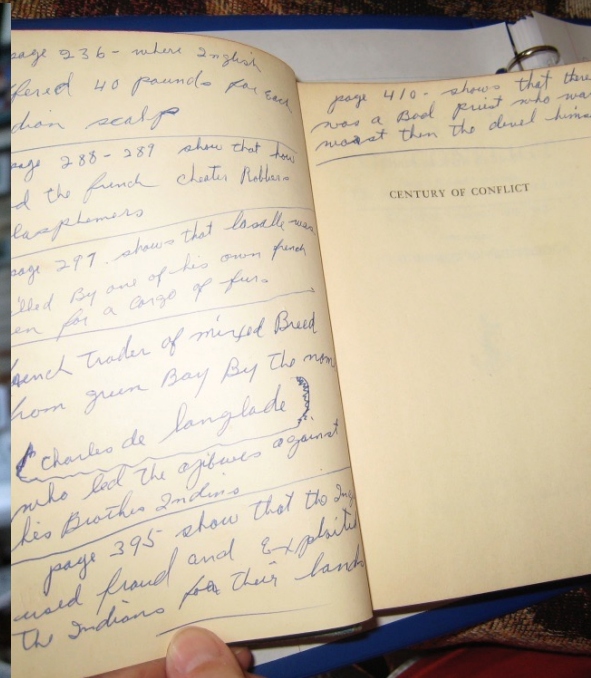
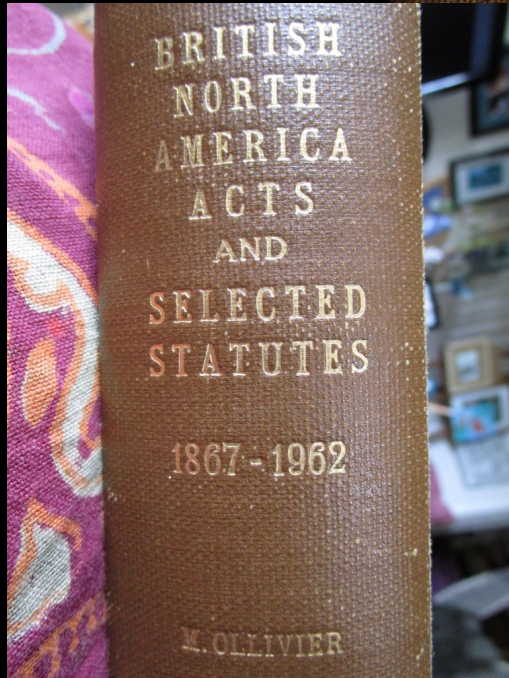
# **GINAWAYDAGANUC AND CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS**

- **Ginawaydaganuc** and the deep understanding of the interrelatedness of everything contributed to the constant prayer and mantra in William Commanda's work – and given all he knew about people and institutions, that required considerable strength to affirm with compassion and “no boxing gloves”
- Circle of All Nations continues to make efforts to build bridges and where there are no gates and gatekeepers, the work is magic and evolutionary in nature – and it takes a tremendous biodiversity of talents and capacities to manifest in new forms yet retain consistency with its foundational principles
- We say like Grandfather that we need to be **Good Enough for Two**, and need to **Come Together with One Heart, One Mind, One Love and One Determination to Create a Circle of All Nations, a Culture of Peace**

# FROM KINDERGARTEN DROPOUT TO RESEARCHED PHD

- In 2005 we wrote the book "**Learning From a Kindergarten Dropout**"
- In 2006 he was presented with an Honorary PhD by University of Ottawa, and in 2011, second one by Universitat de Quebec Outaouise
- Chancellor and Former Governor General Michaëlle Jean created the William Commanda Hall at the University of Ottawa in 2014
- Carleton University named the Indigenous Student's Resource Centre "**Ojigkwanong**" after him in 2014
- I completed our PhD entitled "**Ginawaydaganuc and the Circle of All Nations – The Remarkable Environmental Legacy of Elder William Commanda**" – structured around the CAN logo
- PS – He was also appointed **Officer of the Order of Canada**, this country's highest honour – for those who desire a better country – as indeed he did!

# SAMPLING OF THE WILLIAM COMMANDA'S RESEARCH



**Bibliography of William Commanda**

AUTHOR'S NAME	DATE	TITLE	SUBJECT	PUBLISHER	PLACE PUBLISHED	CLASSIFICATION
Hedgepeth Don and Reed Walt	1983	The art of Tom Lovell	An invasion to history	William Morrow and company	New York	Native History
Carleton Robert	1990	Edge of the dawn		Douglas and McIntyre	Vancouver	Native History
Bon Farris Leo	1984	New England Indians	Biographies and legends Vol III	Phineas publication inc.	Burlington Maine	Native History
Finlay James S.	1970	New England Indians	Biographies and legends Vol II	Phineas publication inc.	Burlington Maine	Native History
Finlay James S.	1983	Native people in Canada	Contemporary context	Phineas Inc. Canada inc.	Scarborough	Native History
King Thomas	2003	The path about stone	A native narrative	House of Anansi press inc.	Toronto	Native History
Jennett Diamond	1982	The Indians of Canada		University of Toronto press	Toronto	Native History
Geographic board of Canada	1971	Hand book of Indians of Canada		Coles publishing Company	Toronto	Native History
Cathoo Robert and Hunter Robert	1981	Occupied Canada		McClelland and Stewart Inc.	Toronto	Native History
Howley James P.	1980	The Beothicks or red Indians		House of Anansi press inc.	Toronto	Native History
Cardinal Harold	1969	Unjust society		Douglas and McIntyre LTD	Vancouver	Native History
Kotz Larry	1980	Urban Indians		Hurtig Publishers LTD	Edmonton	Native History
Clump Jennifer	2000	The war of 1812 against the Ojibwa		Atlantis publishing Canada LTD	Camrose Ont.	Native History
Cosden Caldwell	1972	The history of the five Indian nations of Canada		Coles publishing Company	Toronto	Native History
Sugden John	1900	New Jacket Warrior of the Shawnee		University of Nebraska Press	Lincoln Nebraska	Native History
Carter Sarah	1990	Lost Harvests, Prairie Indian Reserves	Farmers and government policy	McGill Queens university press	Montreal	Native History
Bennett Robert V.	2001	Andrew Jackson and his Indian Wars		Penguin Putnam Inc.	New York	Native History
Sugden John	1967	Tocumseh, A life		Henry Holt and Company Inc.	New York	Native History
Johnson Basil H.	1988	Indian school days		Key Porter Books LTD	Toronto	Native History
Burford Cottle	1970	The people of the ancient Americas		Himalayan Publishing group	Toronto	Native History
Miggeyes Jeanette	1980	Memories from Kuangwank		Cultural Institute	Itaska, Nunavut	Native History
Hawkins Mary	1983	How to stay		MOBI Printing	Ottawa	Native History
Chief Edward Albert Thompson	1973	How to stay		Phineas Publisher	Whitby	Native History
Seaton Wilma	2004	Why the west was wild		Fire Fly Books	Richmond Hill	Native History
Vida Herman J.	1990	After Columbus		Crown Publishers Inc.	New York	Native History
La Forge Olivier	1998	The American Indian		Crown Publishers Inc.	New York	Native History
Brown Eric (ED)	1975	The Indians of Canada	Text by Clapps Benjamin	Times Life Books Inc.	Alexandria Virginia	Native History
Comstock George (ED)	1975	The Great Chiefs	Text by Clapps Benjamin	Times Life Books Inc.	Alexandria Virginia	Native History
Walter Steven L.	1980	The South West		Cornwallis Publications	Baltimore Arizona	Native History
Helly Mathilde and Coarangeo Berni	1986	Montezuma and the Aztecs		Henry Holt and company Inc.	New York	Native History
La Forge Olivier	1998	A pictorial history of the American Indian		Crown publishers Inc.	New York	Native History
Rapier Thomas	1972	A land and her word of the New Found Land of Virginia		Dover publication	New York	Native History



# NORTH AMERICAN INDIGENOUS NATIONS GOVERNMENT

## The Government of the North American Indian Nation




In 'an Brothers—

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 its by obtaining your Indian Identification Card and to learn how to stand erect its to call for the New Indian Law Booklet issue by this National Indian Government.

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

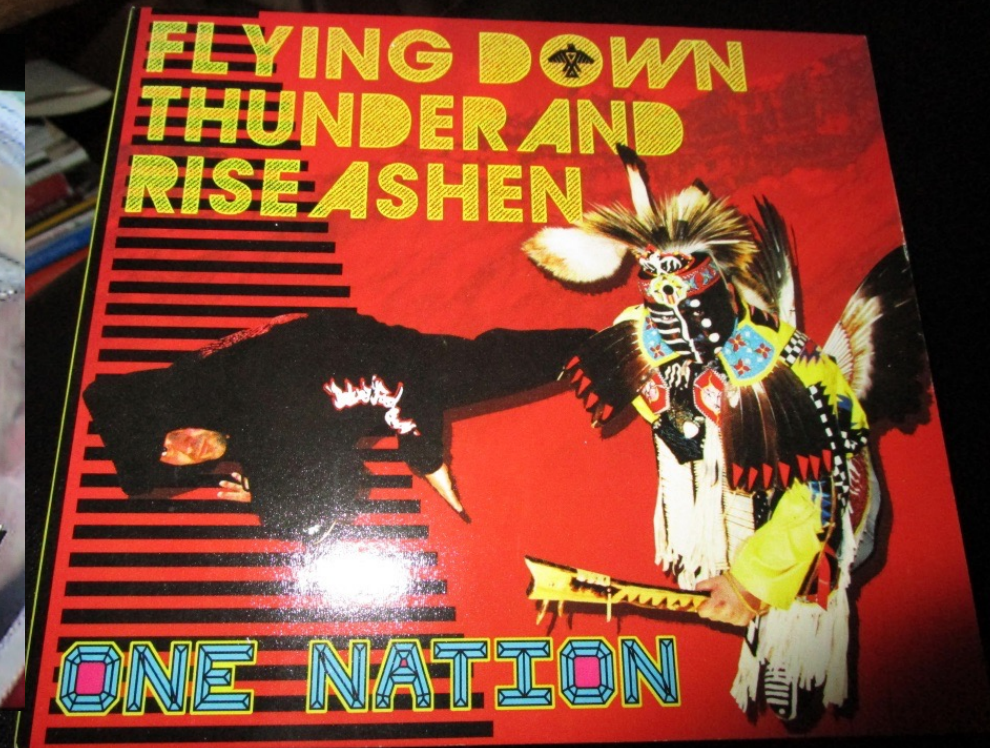
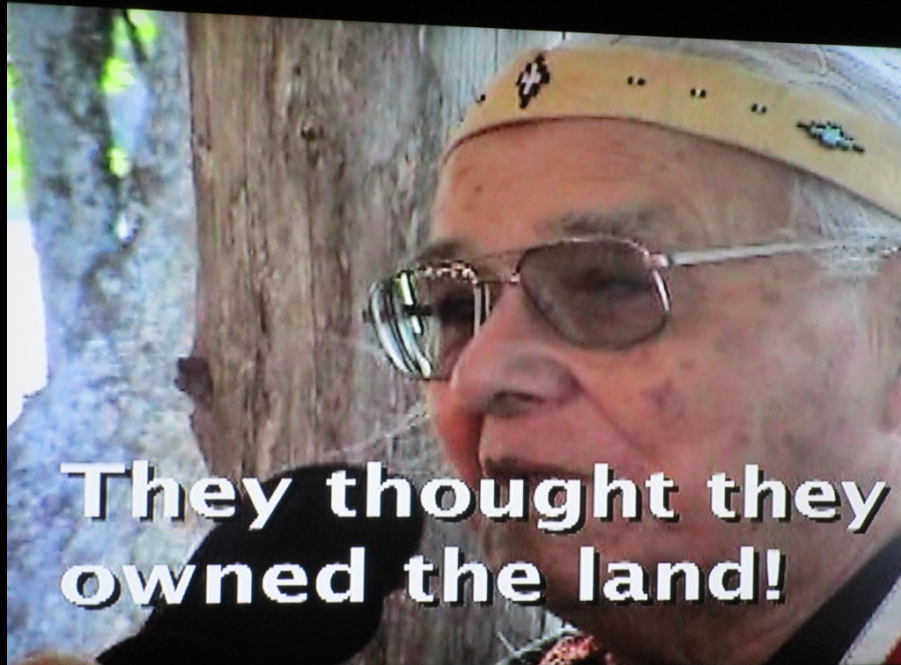


File No. 42.

Mrs. William Bonneau  
 is a member of the Maniwaki band, Tribe, Algonquin  
 Date and year of birth 11 November in 1916, 1918  
 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



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



# 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 NA – 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

# INDIGENOUS AND GLOBAL

- In 1967, Canada's 100 birthday, William Commanda pointedly hosted an International Gathering in Eganville Ontario and welcomed people to his **Territory**
- In 1969, he hosted an Indigenous Gathering of people from across North America at his home in Quebec
- When Canada, the Colony of Britain, brought the "Constitution" and "Charter of Rights and Freedoms" home in 1982, it was working hard to reconcile its early newcomer settler colonizer roots with its French/English history of conflict and rivalry, to be assuaged with Bilingualism, and, with its post World War II larger European and growing multicultural immigrant community, to be included by a new Multiculturalism Act – but the problem with the First Inhabitants of the Land now emerged as a big challenge
- I say, William Commanda and his friend Jules Sioui were the root cause of this problem – they are the key architects of the North American Indigenous Nations Government

# WELCOMING AND SHARING WAMPUM BELT

- We studied the history of the First Peoples of the Eastern Seaboard – tracking history back 12 thousand years – and traced the 84 nations of Algonquian ancestry who had left their mark across the continent in language
- We consciously started using “INDIGENOUS” in all our correspondence Also note, from the launch of the First United Nations Conference of the World’s Indigenous Peoples, the Cry of the Earth, where he made the opening presentation, William Commanda exerted influence in this forum – in 2019 the UN caught up with his Indigenous Language platform – fully trilingual, he set the mark by speaking in Algonquin at this global forum in 1993
- We asserted Indigenous as **political** at every turn – now we have **Indigenous Affairs!**

# **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



# **IDENTITY - FROM ON AND OFF RESERVE, CROWN LAND - TO TERRITORY**

- In the nineties we were still entrenched in terminology and categories that no one understood and terminology that often made no sense – so there was Indian, reserve, off-reserve, status, non-status, native, then First Nations, Inuit, Metis
- Also, the First Peoples of the Land fell into a shifting range of departments "in charge of them" – from the times when the first PM John A. Macdonald made himself Superintendent of Indian Affairs – to Northern Affairs, Natural Resources, Immigration – and in the nineties, FN and Inuit were separated from Metis and Non-Status – though, as in the case of William Commanda's family and son-in-law, Non-Status could be more "pure blood" than the Reserve "Indian"; the language of the mother also impacted Indigeneity.
- I think I became William Commanda's political message because he could say, She's Indian, NOT me!

•



# ABORIGINAL TO INDIGENOUS

- Ab... or Original?? - As per the Latin Ab – From?
- Why must we be called Ab – Original, asked William Commanda (and Alberta Cree Elder Peter Ocheese!) We are **ORIGINAL!**
- And I began to understand how strongly his notion of **identity was political** as well as land based.



# Sunbow Five Walk

25<sup>th</sup> 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, OC, 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> Fire that precludes an era evolving around forgiveness and caring. In the early 1990s during the 7<sup>th</sup> Fire, Grandfather Commanda saw this as an opportunity to kindle the 8<sup>th</sup> 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 (1<sup>st</sup> 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 Bitobi 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, OC, 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. Thumbadoo)

# **CLIMATE CHANGE, COVID BORDERLESSNESS, THE TIPPING POINT AND DIGITAL GLOBAL VILLAGE**

- Global Warming, Extreme Weather, Climate Change, Extinction of Species and 2021 Tipping Point David Attenborough iteration of what William Commanda raised in 1987 about borderlessness
- In Ottawa, unprecedented flooding of the key river that contributed to the life blood of Canada (beaver, travel routes, trees, hydro) and tornado – 2017 and 2019
- Commenced reigniting passion for friendship via launch of the Circle of All Nations Digital Global Village via monthly Facebook Live Video Events
- KEY PRIORITY – to integrate different styles in knowledge generation – from Indigenous, Grassroots, NGOS, Government and Academy

# ***DIGITAL GLOBAL VILLAGE***

- We continue to animate the **Circle of All Nations Bridge Building Work virtually**
- Now, in part it takes the form of this **Digital Global Village** that social media, the continuing reach of the William Commanda voice and passion, and Facebook technology enable us to animate
- The following slides map the global reach and list the topics covered in live videos since the onslaught of Covid as face of contagion and isolation



\* 21 st Anniversary of the Circle of All Nations (CAN) Millennium Peace

\* One Year since the Initiation of the Facebook CAN Live Video Gatherings!

\* And the Work Goes on - Organizing our videos ..... Mapping our global reach ..... Sharing and Learning ....

## Youtube Video Playlists

<b>Social Justice</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CAN 2020 Part III: Criminal Justice and Indigenous Justice Theme</li> <li>- Donald Marshall Junior – October 2020 Fisheries Crisis, Tribute and Hope</li> </ul>
<b>Child &amp; Youth Care</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CAN 2020 Part II: Child and Youth Care and Social Justice Theme</li> <li>- Donald Marshall Jr – September 2020 Tribute</li> </ul>
<b>Racial Harmony /Peace Building</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CAN 2020 Part IV: Racial Harmony and Peace Building Theme</li> <li>- 2015 Equitable Education CA Media Video: Asinabka Sacred Chaudiere Site and Algonquin History</li> <li>- Equinox Peace Event 2020</li> <li>- For the Asinabka Indigenous Eco Peace Centre: At the Sacred Chaudiere Site</li> <li>- CAN 2020 16 December 2020 Preamble</li> <li>- CAN 2020 16 December 2020: South Africa Day of Reconciliation Discussion</li> </ul>
<b>Indigenous Wisdom</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CAN 2020 Preamble: Pre event live video</li> <li>- CAN 2020 Part I: Opening Prayer and Introduction Mother Earth and Environment Theme</li> <li>- CAN 2020 Part V: Canoe, Art, Creativity and the Journey On</li> <li>- CAN 2020: Circle of All Nations Solstice 2020 Online Facebook Gathering</li> <li>- CAN 2020 21 December 2020: Mini Year End Discussion</li> <li>- CAN 2020 21 December 2020: Special Solstice Session and Indigenous Knowledge</li> <li>- A Mini Circle of All Nations Medicine Wheel Discussion</li> </ul>
<b>Environmental Stewardship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CAN Presentation on Indigenous Elder William Commanda Perspectives on Climate Change and Environment</li> <li>- Climate Coaching Alliance and Circle of All Nations: A collaborative workshop</li> </ul>

# ASINABKA INDIGENOUS CENTRE

- This an important example of the divisiveness of borders at an ancient Indigenous Meeting Place
- Extensive information on this Legacy Vision of William Commanda is available on our website [www.asinabka.com](http://www.asinabka.com)
- It was sadly appropriated by the corporate sector, viz Zibi/Windmill, and abandoned by “Algonquin” and fragmented by “supporters”
- More DEVASTINGLY, its thwarting has resulted in the further desecration of a singular Sacred Indigenous Site of geo-cosmic and paleolithic importance

# ASINABKA PEACE CENTRE

- William Commanda's Legacy Vision for the Sacred Chaudiere Site in the heart of the National Capital Region of Canada
- Thwarted by corporate development interests
- Research is dedicated to creating a Virtual Asinabka, beyond borders, in the spirit of Ginawaydaganuc, everything is interrelated



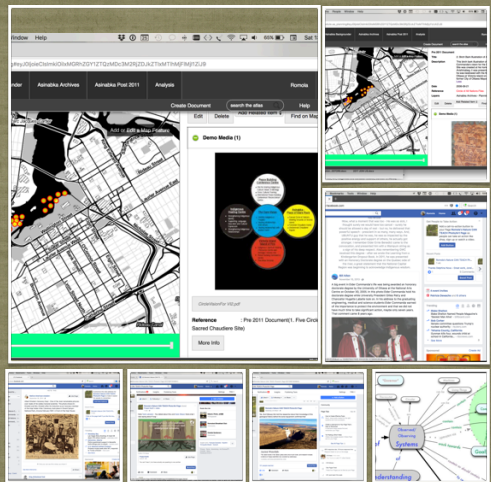




# DIGITAL GLOBAL VILLAGE - INTEGRATING KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS

- 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, D. R. Vester Taylor, Director of the Geomatics Cartographic Research Centre (GCRC) 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 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 Pina 2009).



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 and 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

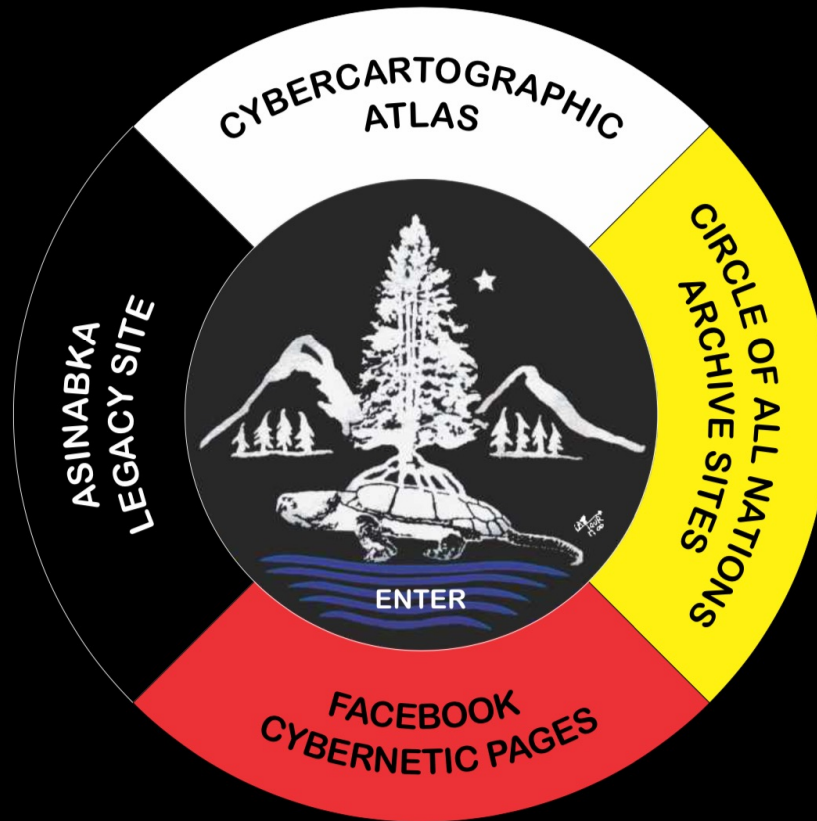
Copyright ROMLA

# BOOKS, VIDEO AND SOCIAL MEDIA

- **Prolific Communications**
- **Karen Bisson** – our lead with our Graphics Design work and [www.asinabka.com](http://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 Pouyanne, Jeremy Wright, Patrick Gravel and Jean Lettellier – 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

Perpetual Student!





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

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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>