



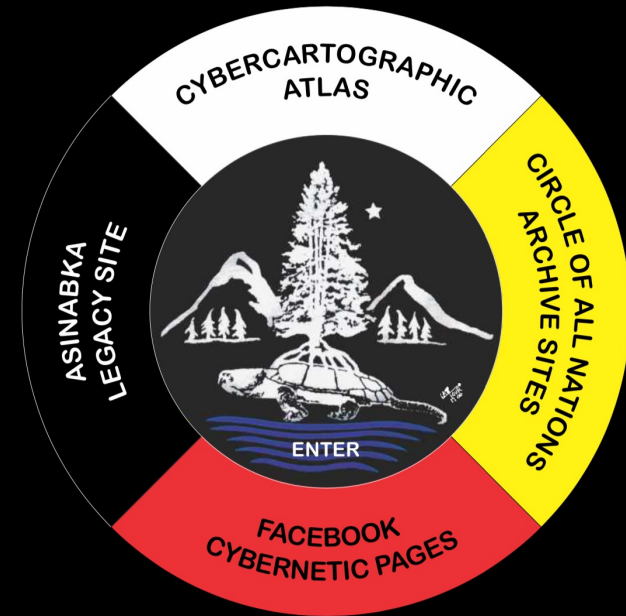
A CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS  
A CULTURE OF PEACE

# WILLIAM COMMANDA

August 10 2024 A Circle of All Nations Presentation for the Mahatma Gandhi Peace Council of Ottawa

*A Lifelong Journey for Balance and Harmony: William Commanda: as Warrior for Mother Earth and Peace Activist*

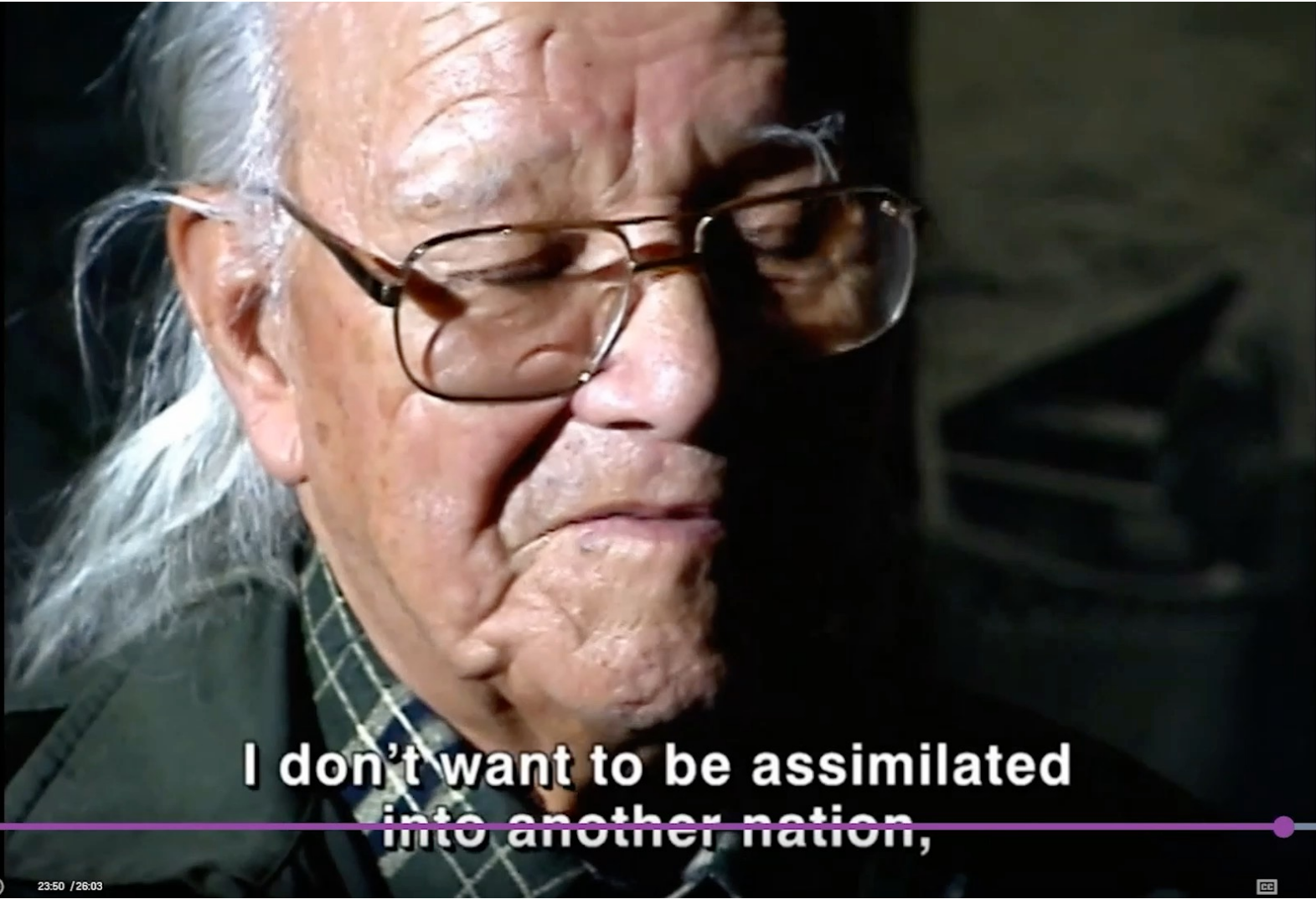
*Romola V. Thumbadoo*



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

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**I don't want to be assimilated  
into another nation,**



23:50 / 26:03



auto



**William  
Commanda**

**Ojigkwanong  
Morning Star**

**North American  
Indigenous Elder**

**Algonquin of the  
Ottawa River  
Watershed**



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)  
[romolavt@gmail.com](mailto:romolavt@gmail.com)







**A Widely Respected  
Spiritual and Political Elder**

**A Master in the  
Integration of  
Knowledge  
and Wisdom**



**KINDERGARTEN DROPOUT**

**PEACE (LAND MINES TREATY)**

**MOTHER EARTH (SACRED CHAUDIERE SITE)**

**TWO HONORARY PHD**

# A GROUNDING SPIRITUAL LEGACY KEEPER OF THE SACRED WAMPUM HERITAGE

WHAT IS PROPHECY?? "EARLY WARNING SIGNALS" ZULU SHAMAN CREDO MUTWA

## Gathering & Sharing

Circle of All Nations Gathering



## Reflection and Research

Iterative Contemplation and Prayer



## Teachings with Africa

Zolani Mkiva: Xhosa Imbongi Folk Poet



- Carrier of sacred **Wampum** heritage of the Algonquins
- Renowned birch bark **canoe maker** and craftsman
- **Political Indigenous leader**, elder, chief, supreme chief, North American Indian 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 and researched PhD**
- **Commanda Hall**, University of Ottawa and **Ojigkwanong Centre** at Carleton University acknowledge him in name recognition of his relevance to **academic knowledge**
- **Canadian History Hall: Commanda panel and message**
- **Chief William Commanda Bridge**

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



« Ginewiyadaganic – Nous sommes tous liés »  
 L'Union des Nations Amérindiennes, l'Assemblée des Premières Nations, le Conseil canadien des Indiens et le Conseil canadien des Inuits ont honoré le chef de guerre et diplomate Ojigkwanong (Étoile du matin) en 1991 et en 1995, et ont publié un communiqué conjoint en 2006. En 2008, il a été nommé officier de l'Ordre du Canada.

« Ginewiyadaganic – We Are All Connected »  
 William Commanda was a remarkable diplomat who, through his wampum belts and research work, helped to bring about the signing of the Meech Lake Accord in 1987 and the Charlottetown Accord in 1992. He was also a member of the Order of Canada in 2008.

« Ginewiyadaganic – We Are All Connected »  
 William Commanda was a remarkable diplomat who, through his wampum belts and research work, helped to bring about the signing of the Meech Lake Accord in 1987 and the Charlottetown Accord in 1992. He was also a member of the Order of Canada in 2008.

Respected Elder  
 « On the 19th of June, 1991, the Order of Canada... »



« On the 19th of June, 1991, the Order of Canada... »





## ON IDENTITY

- *May I shall start by saying that from 1997, William Commanda liked to take me around to his meetings because **I was his political message** – I was the real Indian, not him!*
- *But over 20 years before I met him, I was writing my masters thesis on detribalization in African Literature, and 10 years before, I was working in Aboriginal Justice across the country so **my own journey with Indigenous** thinking has been long*
- *It is easy for us to engage in the discussion on the integration of knowledge streams of peace and environment – Indigenous thinking, as presented by William Commanda and others is the flip side of most other thinking since it is grounded in the **Laws of Nature**.*
- *In North America he simply asserted the fact that **he was “at home”** here – his **Circle of All Nations community** then came to him to be welcomed in, and thus accessed the **direct relational interface with his Mother Earth***



drawing circle of all nations  
from April 11 1997!  
william dawachuk & ronala thumbadoo  
<http://circleofallnations.ca>





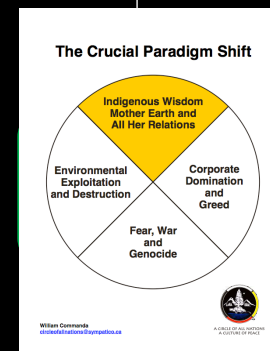
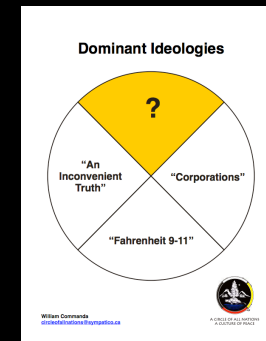
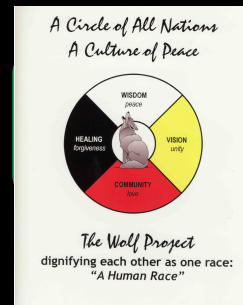
# A GREETING FROM EVELYN COMMANDA DEWACHE





# Abstracting and Conceptualizing the Thinking And Co-creating with William Commanda

Our Circle of All Nations Conceptual Medicine Wheel Triggers our Articulation of the Epistemology





A Passion for Nature  
Igniting for us a  
relationship with a living  
Mother Earth:

- Locally at CAN Gatherings
- At every invited event
- Nationally in 1987 at the First Aboriginal Consultation Conference hosted by PM Mulroney
- Internationally at the UN Pre-Rio Earth COP Summit

Iconic Canoe Epistemology and Integration:  
Nature, the four elements and ecology; creativity and art and technology; Relational and bridgebuilding - Good Enough for Two!



# 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

# FROM 2020 PRESENTATION TO CACOR/CLUB OF ROME

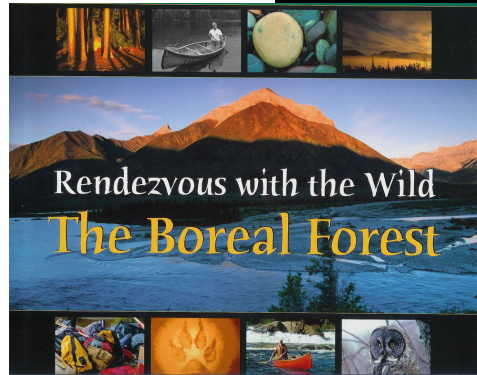
- With respect to environment, my research has led me to conclude that there are **limitations to popular contemporary approaches** to the environment – e.g. environmental ethics , deep ecology, feminist geography
- **Acceleration in climate change**, and environmental crises of global impact attest to the urgent need for new, innovative approaches
- 3 decades after Rio Earth Summit, three things predominate in environmental issues
  - the voice and place of the **Indigenous** and
  - **western domination** of thinking in a “world on fire”
  - **global connections**, and interrelatedness of problems and solutions

**William Commanda advocated for Environment at several important national and international events: 1987 National Aboriginal Conference; 1991 COP; 1993 Cry of the Earth; 2002 Species at Risk; 2023 R pund Table Parks Canada, 2006 Waterlife Workshop, 2008 Uranium Challenge, Ottawa Heritage River Designation**

# CHRONOLOGY OF KEY ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF MOTHER EARTH

## Chronology of Key Activities in support of Mother Earth

1945 - Precursor - Hopi Petition on Environment to the UN  
1967 - First Indigenous Gathering - at Eganville, Ont  
1967 - Gathering of Nations in Maniwaki  
1987 - Presentation of Wampum Belts at Constitutional Talks  
1991 - Pipe Ceremony at Pre Rio Preparations in France  
1992 - Message to Earth Summit in Rio - Agenda 21  
1993 - Cry of the Earth Conference at UN  
1995 - Spiritual Guide of the Sunbow Five Walk for Mother Earth  
1996 - Release of the RCAP Report - at Victoria Island - Would you drink the water?  
2004 - Honorary Elder - Boreal Rendezvous  
2004 - Heritage Rivers Bill Mason Conservation Award  
2006 - Honorary Chair - Ottawa Heritage River Designation  
2006 - WaterLife Workshop  
2007 - The Awakening Gathering  
Annual Circle of All Nations Gatherings Promote Environmental Stewardship  
2004 - Focus on Water  
Annual Gathering of Nations Pipe Ceremonies at Victoria Island  
Interventions on the Proposed Megadump at Danford Lake, Sacred Chaudiere Site, American Eel as a Species at Risk, Test Drilling for Uranium



Beyond those on the larger stage we advanced environmental wake up in events, speeches and text non stop. And in the context of **Water** stewardship, I found that I have over two hundred pages of notes on our work related to this critical topic!

## **CLIMATE CHANGE, COVID BORDERLESSNESS, THE TIPPING POINT AND OUR 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





## **INDIGENOUS WATER SUMMIT SPACE4INNOVATION 2023**

- Unfortunately 500 years of contact removed people from historical patterns of movement across the country, and this has had sad implications for relationship with a particularly important site at the heart of William Commanda's ancestral homeland, the Sacred Chaudiere Site on the Ottawa River, in Canada's capital city
- It had been projected for an Indigenous healing and peacebuilding centre some twenty years ago: we wonder how its manifestation could have impacted global thinking on peace and environment?
- All the more important, then, this work of the Indigenous Water Summit, and this book, *Indigenizing Education for Climate Action*, includes William Commanda's prayer for hope for all into the future

# 2023 – THE WILLIAM COMMANDA ENVIRONMENTAL DISCOURSE

## Indigenizing Education for Climate Action

Strategies, Case Studies and Testimonios

Allegra Villarreal and Diana Mastracci Sánchez

This timely volume centers Indigenous perspectives and knowledges to guide inclusive, ethical climate solutions in education and beyond.



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READ BOOK



CONTENTS

INDIGENIZING EDUCATION FOR CLIMATE ACTION

9

### Tracking Climate Action Discourse in Indigenous Elder William Commanda's Work

*In the Animation of Responsible and Respectful Relationship with Mother Earth*

ROMOLA V. THUMBADOO

Previous: Indigenizing Education for Climate Change

Next: Toward an Inclusive Geospatial Community

Circle of All Nations Facebook Live Video Event  
December 8th, 2023: Indigenizing Knowledge for Climate Action

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r3dhfEl6Jgk&t=258s>



## AN ACADEMIC LENS: FOUCAUDIAN DISCOURSE AND GROUNDED THEORY

- Foucault pointed to an analysis of human/social situations that explores the interplay of knowledge and knowledge creation, power and presentation of truth; this is manifest in ideas, interpretations, relationships and technologies; they funnel a momentum towards an emergent reality; this co-creates a reality of its own, within which the created knowledge becomes dominant and common sense
- I also take a **grounded theory** approach (good consistent practice is embedded in a foundational theoretical premise) to examine the theme of Indigenous knowledge and its manifestation as epistemology in the chapter for the book
- With respect to the discourse of ***Circle of All Nations***, each colleague acknowledges the inspiration from William Commanda's Indigenous approach – indeed, Mexican Abuela Margarita described this as him breathing life/spirit into her work and mission

## **CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS AND THE ONGOING DISCURSIVE REACH**

- Jean Letellier contributed to my references in our thesis – I included academic and grassroots references
- Stephen McFadden documented his voice from the 80s and 90s, including the epic Sunbow Five Walk across North America and now notes his influence on Deep Agroecology
- Julia Blagny took seeds from his home to Europe and South America, asserting the life blood of water in her documentary of the water challenges in Bolivia
- Patrick Gravel created a documentary and organized a walk for the protection of the forests in Quebec, Canada
- Beulah Thumbadoo and Associates joined challenge against test drilling in the Wild Coast, South Africa
- Jayd Soliar, Trichy Vila, created a still relevant music video launched with COP 17 just after William Commanda's death in 2011

*Each affirmed their connection with the source, inspired by his legacy*

# **CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS** **DIGITAL GLOBAL VILLAGE** **INTEGRATING KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS IN** **CONTEMPORARY TIMES**

- Integrating Indigenous, Grassroots, NGOs, Governments and Academia
- **Bridge building to integrate diversity and affirm common purpose**
- Finding our *rightful* 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***

***Sometimes policy is not enough; one needs reflection, relationality, integrity and self-respect***



## OUR GANDHI CONNECTIONS

**Gandhi Documentary** – Grandfather introduced me to Mahatha Gandhi's political thought by making me watch this documentary many, many times - he used this **visual, live, storytelling modality** to research and learn

**Segimay/Mosquito** – This was a Commanda family name, according to Grandpa Alonzo. We liked the Gandhi story about never underestimating the **power of one**, when he reminded folk of the clout of one mosquito in one's pyjamas!

William Commanda offered prayers at the opening of the **Human Rights Tribute**, but he, like Gandhi, was more insistent on a code of **Human Responsibilities**

During the **SUNBOW FIVE Walk**, William Commanda did a Pipe Ceremony for Martin Luther King in Memphis Tennessee in September 1995; it was organized by Arun Gandhi and his Gandhi Peace Org.

Later, William Commanda was presented with a **Martin Luther King Dreamkeeper's Award** in Ottawa – the group here did not know he was already engaged energetically with the civil rights activist - we met Arun Gandhi at Peace Conference in Portland Oregon, and that's when I realized my own personal connection with the Gandhi family in South Africa!

## PERSONAL CONNECTIONS WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GANDHI FAMILY

**Uncle Arun Gandhi**, son of Manilal Gandhi, one of the Mahatma's four sons, was a family friend from Phoenix, who had given me an Indian Stuffed Elephant toy when I was a toddler – I still have it!

**Family Connections** My maternal grandmother and Mrs Manilal Gandhi were friends; my mother and Auntie Sita were childhood friends – Sita stayed in town with her during the school week and then my mother joined her in Phoenix for the weekends. My sisters know her daughters who are in academia in South Africa –Uma Dhupelia-Mesthrie and Kirti Menon. I met their late brother Satish in 2011, visiting my then sick mother – that's how close the thread of connections were.

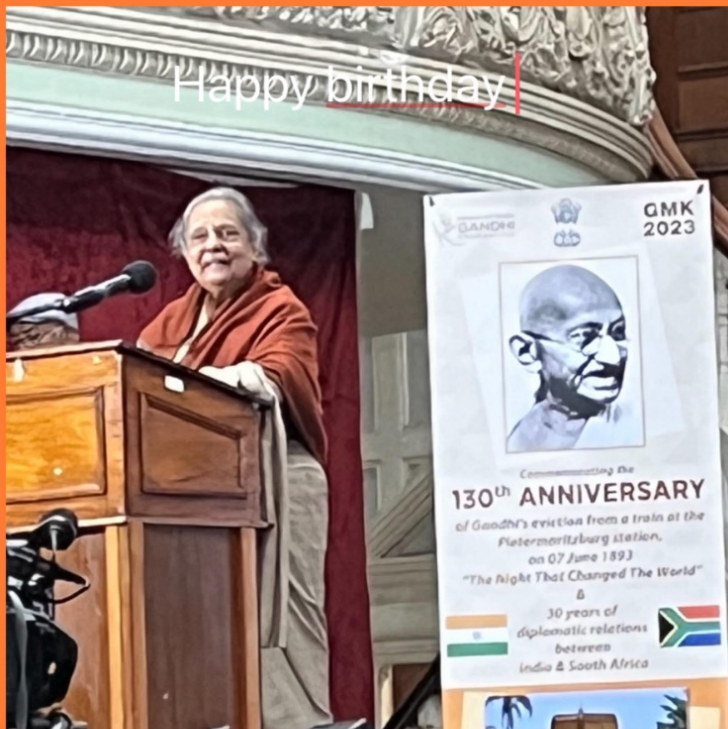
And, how about this? My aunt's in-laws, the Nursoos, were a mixed-race couple – Ellen was a woman of Scottish ancestry who work in Gandhi's law office in Johannesburg, and she married her Indian husband in the Gandhi office – and later, she inherited his desk.

I learned about Mahatma Gandhi's formative South African work from his other granddaughter **Ela Gandhi** – who just turned 84 – Mohandas Gandhi: The South Africa Years. This was part of the "They fought for Freedom" Series, and this takes me back to Grandfather William Commanda!



Uma Dhupelia-Mesthrie is with Ela Gandhi. 4 days ago · 🧑🏻‍🦱

Happy birthday Aunty [Ela Gandhi](#). 84 today and full of energy and vision - how blessed we are to have you with us .



👍❤️ Kirti Menon and 109 others

55 comments

# TOWARDS BALANCE , HARMONY AND PEACE


Commanda, W. (2011). In Chief, K. Audio Recording/Song Miskojonia Red Gold (Flying Down Thunder and Rise Ashen One Nation

Columbus came two times,  
second time he came with seventeen ships Soldiers start killing Indian  
They came for gold  
When he'd seen the Pope - Alexander the 6th... - so I think what  
happened (is this)  
The Pope told him we were not Christians:  
No harm to kill them for gold – To kill us for gold

These people didn't understand Indian,  
and the Indians could not talk French or English And they were shot

Try to make us lose the truth about who is our mother,  
Who she is and what she does for us  
They try to discourage us in every way - not to know these things





They were sending our children to the school  
The schools beating our children because they talk Indian to each other  
Fifty thousand children died in these schools

And my parents tell us forgive them,  
because they don't know what they're doing  
Its been a big way - big thing

But now because of the apology of Canadian peoples –  
that where's the beginning –  
Changes that we did not we did not have before

We were taught always to love them anyway Regardless of what they did to us  
Pray for them they said - some day they might transform to understand what  
they did

Its a long wait ..... 500 years  
William Commanda

# A CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS

## A CULTURE OF PEACE

A commitment guided  
by the Three Figure  
Wampum Belt of the  
Indigenous Peoples of  
the Eastern Seaboard  
To the Newcomers to the  
Continent of North  
America





# PRAYER FOR PEACE AND PEACE TREE PLANTING IN THE CAPITAL



# 1998 AND TWO DECADES OF PEACE ACTIVITIES IN THE CAPITAL REGION COMMENCE

William Commanda's peace work can be viewed from several perspectives and an outline of his efforts in two categories is offered to illustrate the range of his outreach.

## Circle of All Nations Work

Annual Circle of All Nations Gatherings (global outreach, 1996 – 2011)

1997 – Thirteen Moons Gathering at Victoria Island

1998 – Lighting Candles for a Culture of Peace (with Indigenous Prophecy Holders)

2000 – Circle of All Nations Millennium Peace Gathering

2002 - Lighting Candles for a Culture of Peace Two

2006 – WaterLife Workshop





1996 – Indigenous Gatherings, Mexico

1998 – Funai Conference, Japan

2000 – United Nations Millennium Peace Conference, New York

2001 – United Nations Second Anti-Racism and Umtapo Peace Education Conference, South Africa

2001 – Hellinger Systemic Constellation Conference, Germany

2001 - Shivananda Yoga Retreat Centre Peace Conference, Bahamas

2007 - The Awakening Gathering

2009 – March and May Sustainable Relations Workshops, Victoria Island

Annual June 21 Pipe Ceremonies at Victoria Island (1990s – 2011)

Annual March 21 Equinox and Racial Harmony Gatherings (1997 - ...)

Annual September 21 Equinox/Paddle for Peace/UN/Peace Gatherings (1997 - ...)

## United Nations/International Outreach

1970s – Indigenous messages to France, including opening of a Tour de France event

1981 – Canoe building and Indigenous outreach to Queen Marguerita in Denmark

1991 – Pre-Rio United Nations Earth Conference Pipe Ceremonies in France

1990s –Moral Rearmament Peace building conference at the Caux, Switzerland

1993 – United Nations Cry of the Earth Conference of Indigenous Peoples

1990s –Prayer Vigil and related events, Washington DC and Virginia Beach

## Ongoing support/linkages with international organizations

National Association of Child Care Workers, and Umtapo Peace Centre, South Africa;  
Auroville, India, Wittenberg Centre, United States; Holotropic Organization, Japan; FANCV  
(Fundacion Argentina A Las Naciones Camino A La Verdad (Argentina)

**A Circle of All Nations Peace  
Poster and Message,  
presented in 2000 and  
revitalized in 2020**

**Turtles have played an  
important role in our thinking,  
work and writings**

**This Giant Snapping Turtle  
visited us at Grandfather  
Commada's dock the fall  
before the Millennium**

*A Circle of All Nations ~ A Culture of Peace*

The Vision Of North American Algonquin Elder  
William Commada  
Keeper Of The Seven Fires Prophecy Wampum Belt

These Difficult Times We Live In Were Foreseen By Spiritual Visionaries Across The World. My Ancestors Warned Us About This Time And The Choices We Would Have To Make, In The Seven Fires Prophecy, Which Was Inscribed In Sacred Wampum Shell In The Late 1400s

**The Prophecy Holds A Vision For A Future Where We:**

- Honour Our Relationship And Responsibility To Mother Earth And All Creation
- Celebrate Our Individual Gifts And Diversity, And Still
- Recognize And Respect Our Place Within A *Circle Of All Nations*

**The Steps To This Future Are Few:**

- First We Look Within, So We Know Ourselves First And Best. We Recognize, Acknowledge And Forgive Ourselves Our Shortcomings And Any Failure To Achieve Our Best Potential
- We Forgive Others For Any Hardship And Pain They May Have Caused Us And Our Communities. We Trust That This Energy Will Transform Them Spiritually
- We Recognize That Our Thoughts, Words And Actions Affect Ourselves, Mother Earth And All Creation, And We Embrace Peace Mindfully
- We Listen To Our Minds But We Trust Our Hearts Above All

**It Is Of Crucial Importance That The People Of The World:**

- Respond Immediately To The Plight Of The Many Oppressed By Exploitation, Social Injustice, Racism And
- Animate The Human Capacity For Forgiveness, Compassion, Love And Reconciliation; And
- Create A Global Synergy To Ensure The Improvement Of The Lives Of All

This Path Will Lead Us To Love, Sharing, Respect, Responsibility, Compassion, Healing, Reconciliation, Equality And Justice

We Shall Then Light The Eighth Fire Together And Become

*A Circle of All Nations ~ A Culture of Peace*



**A Circle of All Nations – A Culture of Peace**

**The Vision of North American Algonquin Elder William Commanda**

**Keeper of the Seven Fires Prophecy Wampum Belt**

These difficult times we live in were foreseen by spiritual visionaries across the world. My ancestors warned us about this time and the choices we would have to make ,

**The Prophecy holds a vision for a future where we:**

Honour our relationship and responsibility to Mother Earth and all creation

Celebrate our individual gifts and diversity, and still

Recognize and respect our place within a Circle of All Nations

**The Steps to this future are few:**

First we look within so we know ourselves best. We recognize, acknowledge and forgive ourselves our shortcomings and any failure to achieve our best potential

We forgive others for any hardship and pain they may have caused us and our communities. We trust that this energy will transform them spiritually.

We recognize that our thoughts, words and actions affect our selves, Mother Earth, and all creation and we embrace peace mindfully

We listen to our minds but we trust our hearts above all

**It is of crucial importance that the people of the world**

Respond immediately to the plight of the many oppressed by exploitation, social injustice, racism, and

Animate the human capacity for forgiveness, compassion, love and reconciliation, and

Create a global synergy to ensure the improvement of the lives of all

This path will lead us to love, sharing, respect, responsibility, compassion, healing, reconciliation, equality and justice

**We shall then light the eight fire together and become A Circle of All Nations – a Culture of Peace**





In South Africa for the UN Conference on Racism and Xenophobia  
Note WC with Mrs Steve Biko, Black Conscious Movement

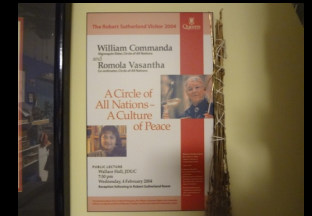




Despite the explosion of 9/11, a frightening delay in South Africa, and ongoing awareness of oppression, Grandfather Commanda still affirmed peace



Multiple sources of  
Inspiration for Peace and  
Ginawaydaganuc Energy -  
We are All Inter-related!  
Even technology  
cooperated!



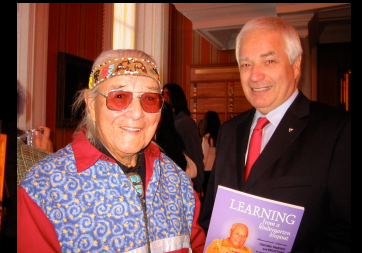












**William Commanda with some important leaders or moments**

# CONVERSATIONS WITH COLLEAGUES ABOUT GANDHI AND COMMANDA LINKAGES

Richard Weeks Initiatives of Change, formerly Moral Rearmament - William Commanda's engagement in CAUX and with the Gandhi family

Balwant (Bill) Bhaneja - Annual Ottawa Peace Festival and Canadian Peace Initiative - and CAN's 2013 Paddle for Peace

Noel Salmond - Academic interest in the William Commanda gatherings, events at Victoria Island and the Sacred Chaudiere Falls

Engagement from the audience



# INITIATIVES OF CHANGE AND RICHARD AND ROS WEEKS

# GANDHIS, JOY AND KEITH NEWMAN, DOCTOR CARLISLE AND SUZANKA KUTINA FROM AUSTRALIA!





My wife Usha and I knew that it would be a privilege to meet "Grandfather" William Commanda. The photograph where we are seated next to him -- *kindly focus on it* -- demonstrates "Grandfather" Commanda's warmth and affection.

The photograph also proves the soundness of "Grandfather" Commanda's insight that all of us -- I repeat, **all of us** -- belong to a single circle. I defy anyone to say that in the photograph he is not looking at two brothers -- I am of course the spoilt younger brother.

I salute the noble memory of "Grandfather" Commanda, and express admiration for what his daughter, Evelyn Commanda Dewache, and Dr. Romola V. Thumbadoo are together doing to strengthen the connected legacies of Gandhi and Commanda. -- Rajmohan Gandhi

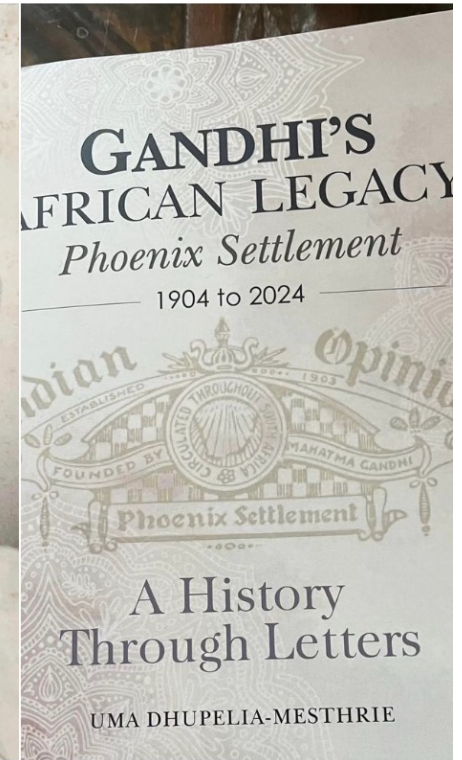
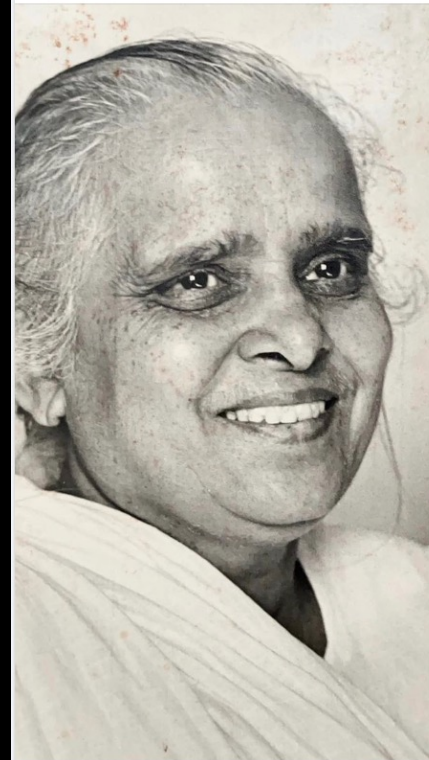


Uma Dhupelia-Mesthrie

6h · 🧑



The main star of my book *Gandhi's African Legacy: Phoenix Settlement 1904 to 2024* is my grandmother Sushila Gandhi. The book contains 71 letters written by her in Gujarati which have been translated into English. It represents the first published letters written by a Gujarati woman in South Africa. From just a few letters in the 1920s and 1930s, her letters dominate through the 1950s and 1960s. A history dependent on English sources is a very incomplete history hiding many stories. Sushila's letters reveal the steeliness and determination with which she became the first Gujarati woman compositor in an all male printing press and the first female editor, trustee and manager of Phoenix Settlement. This photograph was found by [Misha Dhupelia](#) in her father [Satish Dhupelia](#)'s collection.







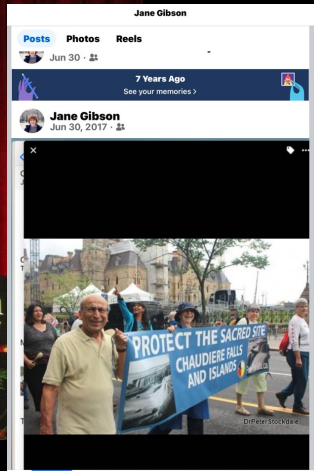
**A FEW More Circle of All Nations Peace Building Moments**







Paddle  
for  
Peace





## PEACE VIDEO CLIP GOOD ENOUGH FOR TWO CLIP

Commanda, William. "Video Interview on the UN International Day of Peace." Jean Trudel. 2005. Video, 5:54.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zmYs2PtPc4w&feature=youtu.be>

Good Enough for Two – Canoe Making Documentary  
by Valerie Pouyanne, Loon Productions

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JARzmp9pQP>

The Journey Continues!!.....





# A TONGUE IN CHEEK FINISH!

William Commanda was included in a art exhibit of peace activists - and ironically his painting was placed next to one of Henry David Thoreau, who influenced Tolstoy, who corresponded with Mahatma Gandhi, who influenced Martin Luther King and Malcolm X, and Nelson Mandela and Dalai Lama - BUT we've forgotten that Thoreau learned from his Penobscot Guide, William Commanda's ancestor!





# CYBERCARTOGRAPHY, CYBERNETIC GUIDANCE, FB LIVE: OUR DOT COM ELDER WILLIAM COMMANDA!



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 cosmos; *Aiw* and the *Sleeping Giant* commemorating Earth creation in rock; Air, wind, movement animating water life emergent from the oxygen rocks of the *Redoloppi* 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 Mikaran Maragaham for Circle of All Nations

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## CYBERCARTOGRAPHY

### Ancient Knowledge Base and Contemporary Application

More than a decade ago, Dr. R. Fraser Taylor, Director of the *Cybercartography Research Centre (CCRC)* at the *Carleton 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 attract 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 Lyon 2009).



*Circle Of All Nations  
Legacy For Hope*



A CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS  
A CULTURE OF PEACE



# CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS CONTACT DETAILS

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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>