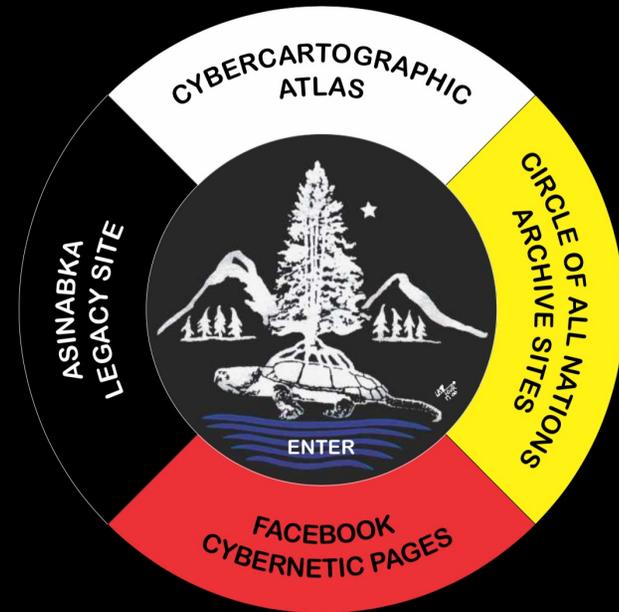


# GRANDFATHER WILLIAM COMMANDA

11 November 2025  
A Circle of All Nations Mini  
Commemoration Presentation  
on Remembrance Day

*A Lifelong Journey for Justice,  
Peace, Balance, Harmony and  
Reconciliation with Mother  
Earth*

*Romola V. Thumbadoo*



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

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romola@circleofallnations.ca  
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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."*

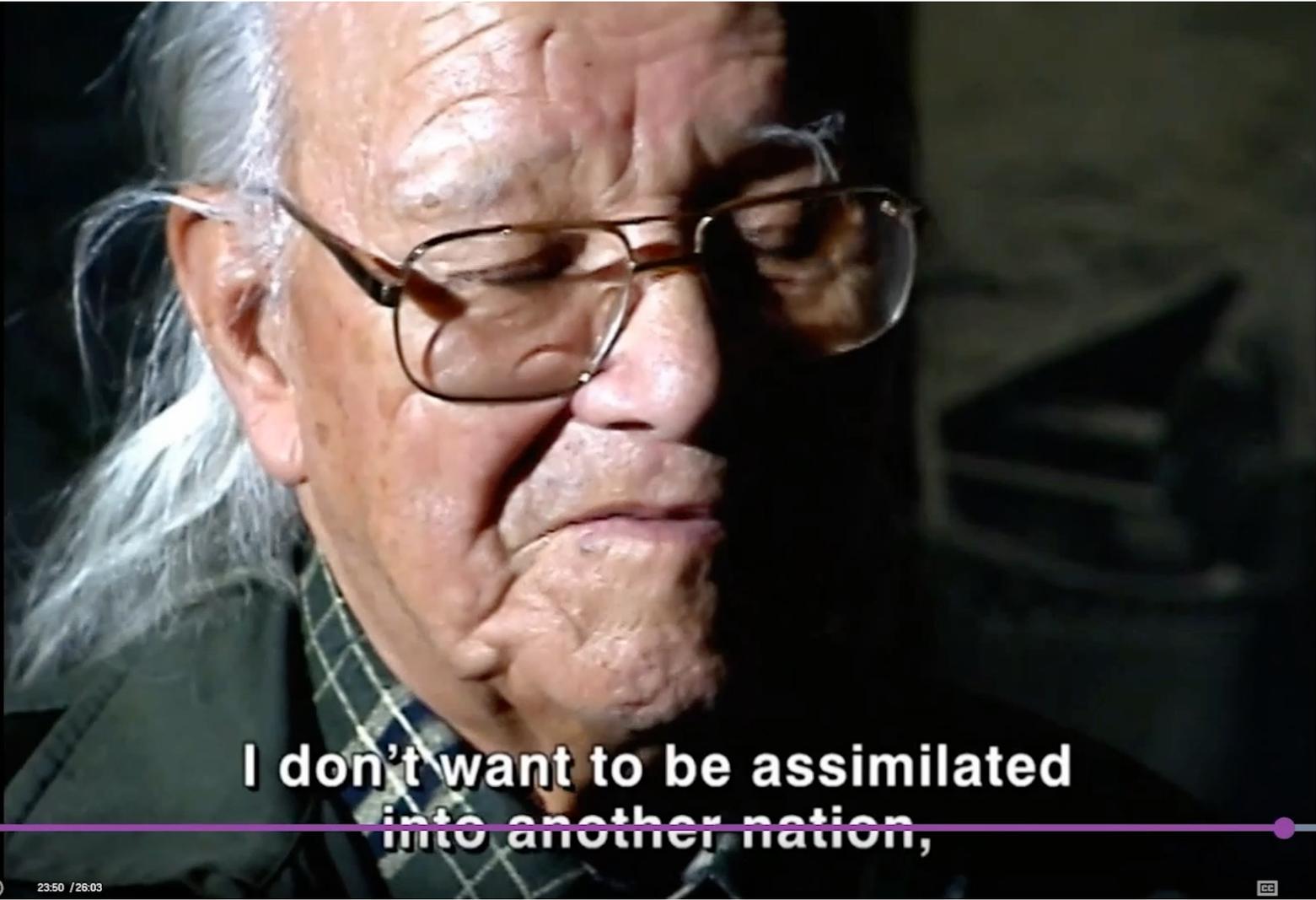


A CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS  
A CULTURE OF PEACE

[www.circleofallnations.ca](http://www.circleofallnations.ca)    [www.asinabka.com](http://www.asinabka.com)  
[romolavt@gmail.com](mailto:romolavt@gmail.com)



A CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS  
A CULTURE OF PEACE



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



23:50 / 26:03



auto



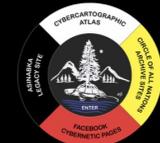
**SPECIAL  
ANNOUNCEMENT  
LEARNING FROM A  
KINDERGARTEN  
DROPOUT BOOKS 1,  
2 AND 3, AND OUR  
KAYAK PHOTO  
JOURNAL ARE NOW  
PUBLISHED ON  
AMAZON/KINDLE**

These are a compilation of all the work done during Grandfather William Commanda's life since 1997 – and it includes some Circle of All Nations reports on his impact and legacy.

William Commanda, Carrier of the Sacred Wampum Heritage of his Algonquin ancestors, holds two Honorary Doctorate Degrees, is a researched PhD, and was appointed Officer of the Order of Canada.

We have compiled and published this massive series of reports so that there is a publicly and internationally available record of all his tireless and highly influential work. This will complement academic research on his work and that of his global Circle of All Nations grassroots eco-peace community; and also show how it has contributed to SYSTEMIC CHANGE in Ottawa, Canada and beyond.

Eg. DID YOU KNOW that we directly contributed to Land Acknowledgement? Do you know we put Akikpautik on the map and now Canadian Geographers have acknowledged this and the Sacred Chaudiere Site in the joint Cartographic Association of Canada/Canadian Cartographic Association May 2025 Conference entitled Confluence??!! And then there's Reconciliation, the visibility of First Peoples, the Paris Agreement, and more! Details in our writings and website.



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

## A William Commanda Retro in a Compilation of Books!



**Books 1, 2 and 3 in our Learning From A Kindergarten Dropout series, and our Kayak photo journal, Passionate Waters Butterfly Kisses are now available on Amazon/Kindle.**

You can track them under Romola Thumbadoo or William Commanda.

Circle of All Nations is honoured to share these on Grandfather William Commanda's 112th birth date

**11 November, 2025**

**INTRODUCING  
OUR CIRCLE OF  
ALL NATIONS  
GRAPHIC  
DESIGNER**

**RAYMOND  
NINGYU WU!**



## A CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS FRIEND ENCOURAGED THE PUBLICATIONS!

- Martin Brown accompanied Dr. William Sullivan to our March 2009 Equinox Gathering. Bill is the writer/historian who helped us with our South March Highlands effort to protect the Beaver Pond and old growth trees; though he looks like he's sleeping, Martin has not at all – he is the one who encouraged me to work on our Kindergarten Dropout book series! Both of them joined us from Mass – as did Jim Farhan!



2025

**A SUPER IMPORTANT YEAR TO COMMEMORATE THE  
ANNIVERSARIES OF A FEW OF GRANDFATHER'S  
IMPORTANT TRANSFORMATIVE INITIATIVES**

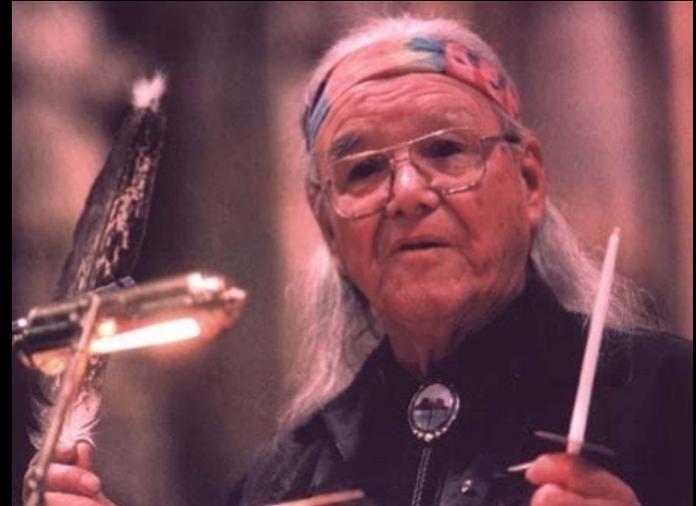
30 Years since the SUNBOW FIVE WALK FOR MOTHER  
EARTH – Steven McFadden will tell us about that!

25 Years since our Circle of All Nations Millennium Peace  
Gathering!

19 years since our November 2006 Waterlife Workshop

ALSO 19 years since his Honorary Doctorate Degree from  
University of Ottawa – Was he the first Indigenous  
Recipient?? My google search seems to indicate so.

And 28 years since the “Princess Diana” Ottawa Land  
Mines Treaty – Grandfather did the blessing



# 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





**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)**

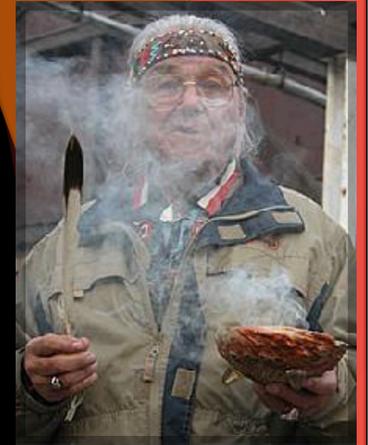
**TWO HONORARY PHDS**

**William  
Commanda**

**Ojigkwanong  
Morning Star**

**North American  
Indigenous Elder**

**Algonquin of the  
Ottawa River  
Watershed**





# 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

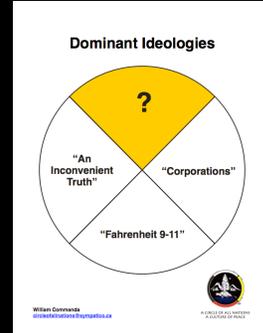
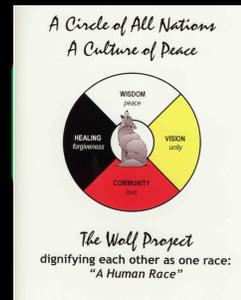
Zolani Mkiva: Xhosa Imbongi Folk Poet





**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**



# 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

## 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, art and technology;  
Reflexivity, relationality, and bridgebuilding  
(Literally with the William Commanda Bridge!)

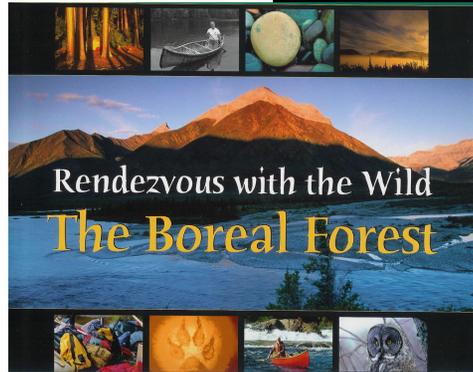
**(Someone had to be) Good Enough for Two!**



# 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!

# ITS 2025 AND CANADA BECOMES THE 51<sup>ST</sup> STATE – THE GRANDFATHER ALERT FROM THE EARLY 2000S



# 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

# PEACE ACTIVITIES

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

## Examples of Circle of All Nations Work In Ottawa

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

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 - ...)



### **Gatherings/Conferences Beyond the National Capital Region**

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

### **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

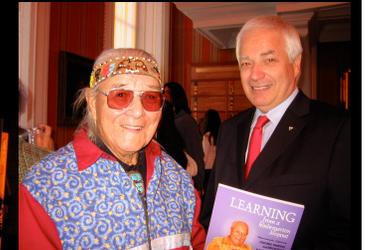
1993 – United Nations Cry of the Earth Conference of Indigenous Peoples

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))





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





**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*

# 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;  
 fish 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 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 Cartographic Research Centre (CRC) at the Curtin University, the academic pioneer in the field of cybercartography, wrote that this technology would be carelessly 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 Dean 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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Find us on Facebook: Romola Vasantha Thumbadoo,  
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>