INTEGRATING CYBERCARTOGRAPHY AND CYBERNETICS IN THE CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS INDIGENOUS MAPPING EXEMPLAR OF WILLIAM COMMANDA. 2021 ICC

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Yoshi Turtle - Purposeful movement on land and water


Artist Arnold Jacob's interpretation

Mamiwinini 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'HERITAGE DE L'AINE 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."

www.carionofallnations.ca   www.asinabika.com
WHO IS WILLIAM COMMANDA?

• Carrier of sacred **Wampum** heritages 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
KINDERGARTEN DROPOUT, PEACE (LMT), MOTHER EARTH (VI), HON PHD CIRCLE OF ALL NATIONS (CAN) BRIDGE TEACHING AND LEARNING APPROACHES

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
• 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” – I move, I think, I am
• Body in Motion and Cosmic Being are critical for cognitive functioning and are
  indoctrination are reinforced by ceremonial and orality
• Reservations deprive people of this “brain powering by” enforcing locational
  boundaries
• But William Commanda was Body in Motion - unconfinable and borderless
• Canoe was his Teaching Tool and metaphor for the Journey of Life An illustrative
  example: Ignited fight for Species at Risk protection of the migrational American Eel
  in 2008 - https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/460704236855661093/ (History and Eels at Minute 2.22)
• This theme of motion was re-presented and profiled in the 2017 International
  Anthropology Conference at University of Ottawa as inspired by W. Commanda
“A Man is Walking: Mamiwinini - a body in motion”

Mary Daisy Commanda Jacko, direct descendant of Piwanokwe, the earliest known inhabitant of Indian Island on Lac Commanda (the ancestral grandmother from 1760)

Personal conversation, upon examining a Papineau sketch map in William Commanda’s archives.
CANOE AND CYBERNETIC STEERING

• World renowned birch bark canoe builder – 75 canoes around the world - 1976 Festival of American Folklife, Smithsonian:
  • http://aifg.arizona.edu/film/1976-festival-american-folklife-5-algonkin
• Navigational Cybernetic methodological teaching tool examined in 2018 Thumbadoo thesis
• 2019/20 reiterative canoe storytelling with Jan Skamby Marsden, then Director, Roskilde Museum re:1981 canoe making project via FB Live Video
  Check out https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jwMBJI7sB1c at 3.11.00 – 3.29.17
• 2007 Good Enough for Two Canoe Making Documentary excerpt
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JArzmp9pQPl
• Environmental immersion and stewardship and Paddle for Peace events at the Sacred Chaudiere Site
• Canoe as iconagraphic semiotic motional signifier
• Movement, Knowledge Generation and the Journey of Life
POLITICAL LOCATIONAL MAPPING - 1945
THE NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN NATIONS GOVERNMENT
1492 - COLUMBUS ARRIVES WITH POPE ALEXANDER VI BULLS AND EDICTS

They thought they owned the land!

FLYING DOWN THUNDER AND RISE ASHEN
ONE NATION
• 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

• William Commanda and Jules Sioui were key architects of the North American Indigenous Nations Government initiated in 1945; it sparked the civil rights movement in the United States and elsewhere, and the awakening of the Indigenous voice in North America
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  
Welcome in Montreal - Ancestral Home

President Nelson Mandela  
Welcome: Human Rights Tribute Ottawa

The Queen Elizabeth  
Welcome with Coronation Medallion 1952
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 preludes 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 Cod, 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.

“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

“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. Thumbadoos)
ON THE ACADEMIC SCENE

Cosmic Laws of Nature

Learning Sharing Teaching for Animative Earth affirmative Knowledge Generation in a World on fire And drowning

NATURE THE TEACHER
Cosmic, Rocks, Water, Plants, Animals - and Reflexivity

We have thousands of images of the multiple faces of Nature. I say that I take these photographs to acknowledge the lessons the earth has taught me, i.e. engaging relationally with the Living of Nature. It is my equivalent of the tobacco or tobacco William Commanda would offer nature in exchange for spare roots or birch bark. It signifies reciprocity.

See NATURE CAN TEACH PAGE ON FACEBOOK!

PERPETUAL LEARNER
TIRELESS TEACHER

My central argument now is that the better understanding and integration of Miskwa Commanda’s ideas and approach for teaching interrelatedness and intergenerational connection is of critical importance today. He launched his multiple sources and taught in campuses and extremely effective ways. Reference to him on social media from people across the globe right into 2013 affirms the universality and persistence of his vision and his teachings.
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
PHYSICAL AND MENTAL MAPPING

In the Age of Information, innovative engagement with online communications technology to develop

1. Semiotics and Textual Infographic Mind Mapping
2. Cybertopographic Digital Atlas Live Archiving; and
3. Cybemetic Temporal and Algorithmic Social Media Navigation to Animate the Circle of All Nations Digital Global Village
Semiotic, technological animation infographics created by three undergraduate students, further to research into the work of the Indigenous Elder William Commanda and Circle of All Nations - 2020/21
Digital Global Village Face Book Live Free, Accessible, Educational Storytelling Public Gatherings with Global Reach – initiated in May 2020
BOOKS, VIDEO AND SOCIAL MEDIA

• Prolific communications since 1997 via events, gatherings, conference, websites, blogs, books, videos and online presence

• Since the onslaught of Covid, FB technology has enabled the animation of a CAN Digital Global Village – and leaving a record for the public

• William Commanda remains a vibrant presence with timeless messages
… AND THE 2022 ONLINE CALENDAR

William Commanda CAN TEACH Calendar
a reflection on our academic work of the past decade

https://turtlelodgetradingpost.ca/products/circle-of-all-nations-2022-calendar
Access All
Through the
Circle of All Nations
“Metaverse”
Landing Page,
Developed in 2020!
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