



# **Ginawaydaganuc Village: Governance, Funding, and Future Development**

DECEMBER 2024





# Formation of Ginawaydaganuc Village

- Established in 2022 on Algonquin territory near Almonte, Ontario.
- Indigenous-led eco-cultural education center, tourist destination and a healing center for all.
- Rooted in the principle of interconnectedness, the village fosters sustainable relationships and inclusive communities.
- Mission to create a business and social hub showcasing innovative practices through cultural renewal and educational programming.

# Grandfather William's Vision

- This project is dedicated to globally renowned **Algonquin Elder and visionary leader Grandfather William Commanda**.
- His simple but compelling message of **forgiveness, reconciliation,** and **enlightenment** is the foundation on which Ginawaydaganuc is grounded.
- His respect for **Mother Earth, racial harmony, social justice,** **Indigenous knowledge keeping,** and **peace** is in our hearts.



# Meaning of Ginawaydaganuc Village

“Ginawaydaganuc” translates to “We/All are connected,” reflecting the Village’s vision of interconnectedness. The Village promotes sustainable relationships, inclusive communities, and collaborative efforts to enhance the planet’s well-being.

*We want to plant the seeds for the next seven generations!*



## Who are we?

- Ginawaydaganuc Village is registered as a non-profit under the name 14158407 Canada Centre. We are in the process of applying for charity status.
- The overarching mission focuses on cultural preservation, education, environmental stewardship and healing.
- The non-profit is the central hub that governs the Elder's Lodge and the educational centre, known as the Academy.
- Other businesses and services in the Village will have a symbiotic relationship with the central hub.



# Our Board of Directors



**John Henri Commanda**  
Executive Director  
& Chair



**Barb Brant**  
Executive Director &  
Cultural Administrator



**Chuck Commanda**  
Executive Board Member



**Karen Bisson**  
Executive Director, Treasurer,  
& Operations Advisor



**Larry McDermott**  
Executive Board Member

## Governance Structure

Ginawaydaganuc Village is guided by an Indigenous Board of Directors, along with a brilliant leadership team, to ensure transparency, accountability, and alignment with community needs.

Decision-making is collaborative, incorporating input from stakeholders to sustain growth and success.

Full Bios can be found on our website:  
[ginawaydaganuc.ca/about\\_us#directors](https://ginawaydaganuc.ca/about_us#directors)

## Funding Sources

- We have secured funding through a combination of grants, philanthropy, and fundraising efforts.
- Economic Development Officer who identifies and pursues funding opportunities.
- We have a comprehensive fundraising and sponsorship plan designed to support operations and future growth ensuring a sustainable financial foundation.

## Existing Funding Agreements

Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada

Canadian Race Relations Fund

Indigenous Community Capital Grants Program

Department of Canadian Heritage



# Voices of Support: Building Momentum Together

Ginawaydaganuc Village is backed by a strong network of support, including provincial, municipal, Indigenous, and community stakeholders.

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## THE REQUEST

Ginawaydaganuc Village is seeking a letter of support from Municipality of Mississippi Mills to reinforce its mission and strengthen its efforts to secure the necessary backing to advance this transformative project. This support will be instrumental in helping us move closer to our shared vision and objectives.





# Ginawaydaganuc V I L L A G E

For more information, please visit our website at  
[www.Ginawaydaganuc.ca](http://www.Ginawaydaganuc.ca)

## MIIGWETCH!

ANY QUESTIONS?

