## The Shingwauk Covenant

## I naw koo Ni Gay – Resolution Inawkoonigaywin – Mutual Resolve

Mee I ewe Noon Goom Aynawkooni Gay Yawng Shingwauk Education Trust Meenuh Wah Algoma University College O'Dawpi Nuh Mawng Ayzhi Beigawdiag, Ay Ki Doom Uhguk Iewe Muzzi Nuhigun.

To wit: Today, now we Shingwauk Education Trust and Algoma University College understanding the covenant as it is written states our resolve of mutual acceptance and support of said covenant.

A statement of the common understanding and commitment of Algoma University College and the Shingwauk Education Trust

The Shingwauk Education Trust (SET) and Algoma University College (AUC) share a commitment to Shingwauk's Vision and its values in the spirit of mutual trust. Shingwauk foresaw a time when a great "Teaching Wigwam" would be brought into being that would bring together the best of the heritage of the Indigenous and European peoples and cooperatively provide a better future for both through education.

Shingwauk's Vision has as its foundation the Principle of the Two Row Wampum Belt, which illustrates two vessels, one belonging to the Anishinaabe "The Original Peoples of this part of the Earth" and the other to the European peoples.

This covenant speaks to the Two-Row Wampum. (The wampum is a shortened version of the Algonkian word wampumpeage, meaning "white shell bead.")

One purple row of beads represents the path of the Anishinaabe's canoe which contains their customs and laws. The other row represents the path of the Whiteman's vessel, the sailing ship, which contains his customs and laws. The meaning of the parallel paths is that neither boat should out pace the other, and the paths should remain separate and parallel forever, that is, as long as the grass grows, the rivers flow, the sun shines, and will be everlasting, and they shall always renew their relationship.

The Anishinaabe Teachings of Equality and Respect and the reciprocal working relationship of SET and AUC are intrinsic to the covenant from its inception in perpetuity, without conditions that may be implied or imagined.

The wampum belt teaches that we are totally interconnected to the salvation of Mother Earth and that we should work through our differences and come together in love, peace, reconciliation and unity.

Nee gawn i naw bi yung.... "Looking ahead, to the future" we can see and realize the tremendous work and responsibilities we will face but more so... that we will know and solve all problems... mutually for the benefit of all students of SET and AUC.

Gawgijaywin... forever.

Signed:

Bud Wildman

Chair Person

Algoma University College

Darrell Boissoneau

President

Shingwauk Education Trust

Witnessed:

Phil Fontaine National Chief

Assembly of First Nations