

*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 Nuhi gun.*

*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.*

*The 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*

*Phil Fontaine  
National Chief  
Assembly of First Nations*

*Witnessed:*

*Darrell Boissoneau President  
Shingwauk Education Trust*

## **Shingwauk Kinooaage Gamig - Algoma University Covenant**

### **Addendum to the Covenant:**

*January 15, 2018*

*The decade and a half since our Covenant was entered into has been one of success. It has seen the successful development of the Shingwauk Education Trust and the coming into being of the Shingwauk Kinooaage Gamig as a means to provide educational opportunities and resources in living out our mutual commitment to the restoration of the original spirit and intent of Chief Shingwauk.*

*Chief Shingwauk envisioned a teaching wigwam where people could acquire the necessary educational tools to live well in modern society, and to contribute in turn to it, without compromising the values of our respective cultures and traditions. At the same time it has seen the successful development of Algoma University College into Algoma University with its own charter commitment to its partnership with the Shingwauk Education Trust and with Shingwauk Kinooaage Gamig in a special mission to cultivate cross-cultural learning between Anishinaabe and other communities in Northern Ontario, embracing and fostering diversity while valuing differing cultural and spiritual perspectives.*

### ***gaa-wiin wii-mii-gaa-di-wag (We will not fight each other)***

*After smoking our pipes, a visual record was made to show the meaning of the sacred relationship/partnership between Algoma University and Shingwauk Education Trust, and their commitment in fulfilling Shingwauk's vision of the kinooaage gamig (teaching lodge).*

*This visual record was made by Anishinabeg in ceremony as a sacred wampum belt made of wampum shells/beads to depict the agreement/understanding reached by Algoma University and Shingwauk Education Trust. This debwewin (truth) cannot be changed or given different meaning because wampum agreements/treaties cannot be altered at all because all the shells/beads would break.*

*Shingwauk Kinooaage Gamig is the realization and fulfillment of Shingwauk's spiritual bawaa-ji-gan (vision/dream). Shingwauk Kinooaage Gamig (Teaching Lodge) represents a commitment by Algoma University and Shingwauk Education Trust to protect the middle ground, which establishes a body intercultural scholarship that entrenches an academic alliance between both institutions.*

*Waynaboozho began to sing a song. All the animals began to dance in a circle on the growing island. As he sang, they danced in an ever-widening circle. Finally, the winds ceased to blow and the waters became still. A huge island sat in the middle of the great water. (bawdwaywidun banaise)*

*This story echoes the generational experience of Anishinabe people and our relationship with the land. Obwandiac, Tecumtha and Shingwauk's leadership in challenging Euroamerican colonial hegemony gives context to Shingwauk Kinooaage Gamig and the middle ground.*

*Within Shingwauk Kinoomaage Gamig and the middle ground, both Algoma University and Shingwauk Education Trust see each other in the context of family either as an uncle/aunt or brother/sister. An uncle/aunt is not a dominating figure. A brother/sister is seen as an equal with an obligation to help the other.*

*In this Addendum we recommit ourselves to this vision of Shingwauk and to our partnership and agree to abide in good faith by the additional sub-agreements under this Addendum that we will enter into to bring its intent into being. mii i'i-way anishinabe i-zhi-chi-gay-win (This is the anishinabe way) zhigo mii'iw eta-go o-way neen-gi-kayn-dahn zhigo ni-gi-noon-dah-wah (This is as much as I know and have heard)*

*mii i'iw (That is all)*

*Signed:*

*Susie Jones  
Chair of the Board  
Shingwauk Education Trust*

*Lyle Sayers  
Chair of the Board  
Shingwauk Kinoomaage Gamig*

*Mark Nogalo  
Chair of the Board of Governors  
Algoma University*