

**From:** D'Arcy Hutton  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 01, 2014 3:52 PM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher  
**Subject:** Victoria/Chaudiere Island development

Greetings,

I am writing to register my extreme disapproval regarding the condo development plan for Victoria Island. This piece of land is of huge significance to the Anishinaabeg nation. To dismiss this and to proceed without thorough and honest consultation with concerned Indigenous groups would be a wasted opportunity and another shameful stain on our nation's relationship with First Peoples. Do not let this mistake be made.

D'Arcy Hutton  
Jumping Mouse Nature Education  
[jumpingmouseprograms.org](http://jumpingmouseprograms.org)

**From:** Ashley Jerome  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 01, 2014 2:59 PM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher  
**Subject:** In opposition

Mr. Zwierzchowski, (City of Ottawa)

I oppose the rezoning proposal for two of the islands (also known as Victoria Island) that would allow the Windmill condominium development.

Giving the go-ahead to building condominiums on these islands would detrimentally impact the ability to achieve the full vision of the late Algonquin spiritual leader Grandfather William Commanda for this religious / sacred site and for all of Ottawa Aboriginal community that see's this place as a sacred place in the Nations Capital.

In solidarity,  
Ashley Jerome Commonda  
*concerned citizen*

*member of the Kitigan Zibi Anishnabeg*

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**From:** Joe Kennedy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 01, 2014 2:25 PM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher  
**Subject:** Victoria Island

Deceit and breach of agreements/understandings appear to be the MO at Ottawa City Hall.

Victoria Island is a beautiful and powerful place- please support the FN and Canadians to put in place an appropriate development. We do not need any more bland atrocities like are being developed on LeBreton Flats.

Joseph Kennedy

**From:** Brewster Kneen  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 01, 2014 6:23 PM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher  
**Cc:** Nguyen, Hieu  
**Subject:** chaudiere Falls - Algonquin territory

I wish to register my plea to the City of Ottawa not to allow secular, commercial "development" on Chauderier Island. This territory does not belong to the City of Ottawa, but rather remains, as it has always, in the hands of the Algonquin peoples. Even the idea of building condominiums on the Island is repulsive, catering as it would necessarily to the wealthy elite and the further "conquest" of aboriginal people who have inhabited most of the territory of Canada since long before the arrival of the white settlers.

The vision and plans of Elder William Commanda should be respected and honoured.

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Brewster Kneen

**From:** Cathleen  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 01, 2014 8:05 PM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher; Taylor, Mark; Hobbs, Katherine; Bloess, Rainer  
**Cc:** Nguyen, Hieu  
**Subject:** Chaudiere re-development proposal

Dear Mr. Zwierzchowski and Councillors:

I am writing to urge the Planning Committee, and City Council, to put the brakes on any development plans at the Chaudiere site until there has been consent to the plans from the Aboriginal Nation involved. The site is the religious heart of all Anishinaabe cultures, according to Aboriginal architect Douglas Cardinal, and the late Elder "Grandfather" William Commanda went to great lengths to outline the ways in which it could be used to strengthen the culture and spiritual life of Canada in the last years of his life. His vision would also help counter the disastrous effects of generations of official abuse of Aboriginal peoples in general and the Anishnaabe in particular.

While I do not think that the City of Ottawa, and the present generation of its citizens, should take on responsibility for abuses imposed generations ago, I do think that it is our responsibility to recognize the injustices and do whatever is in our power to right them. This is a golden opportunity to do the right thing, and should not be passed over. The developers can and will, if necessary, wait. What the Planning Committee should recommend, and Council implement, is an open and respectful dialogue with the Anishnaabe leaders on the principles and implementation of Grandfather William Commanda's vision.

This would be a wonderful example, and a clear message to Ottawans that this Council has integrity, compassion, and a larger vision. I look forward to seeing it happen.

Sincerely,  
 Cathleen

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 Cathleen Kneen

Attention: Mr. Hieu Nguyen, Planner  
Planning and Growth Management Department  
City of Ottawa

September 30, 2014

**Re: ACS2014-PAI-PGM-0181 Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments – 3 and 4 Booth Street – Chaudiere and Albert Islands**

In light of the fact that there is an ongoing land claim with the Algonquin peoples and in light of the fact that recorded history shows all the islands of the Ottawa River from the Oka area To North Bay were designated Algonquin territory in several petitions by the Algonquin over a period lasting from the late 1700's to late 1800's....

(Example excerpt: September 20, 1820 petition by the Algonquins *“Governor Prevost promised them that in remuneration for their services [War of 1812] and to recompense the value and exploits of their young men in different engagements, he granted them land for the subsistence of their families... that in the past Governor Carleton granted them all the islands of the Outaouas [Ottawa] River from Ile aux Tortes [island which lies on the southern shore of the river near Lake of Two Mountains/Oka] where their ancient village was located as far as Lake Nipissing...”* Source: Library and Archives Canada/Executive Council office of the Province of Upper Canada fonds RG1L3 (L) Vol. 110, Reel C-2535 p. 53990-53992, September 2, 1820. Also presented in *The Ancestors are Arranging Things...a journey on the Algonkin Trail* (Borealis Press/2011/Ottawa) written by myself, the author. )

And, in light of the fact that the very recent (Tsilhqot'in) **Chilcotin** decision clearly shows that the Supreme Court believes First Nations have rights that have not been recognized by government and business, and in light of the fact that this historic decision by the Supreme Court of Canada has restored a ruling that grants a broad declaration of land title to a First Nation.....

How can the City of Ottawa (Planning Committee) proceed in the same mode of thought that has gone on through history that you have a right to rezone islands that are clearly under question as to whether this land is rightfully yours to rezone in the first place, let alone sell or lease?

Many say this landmark Chilcotin decision does not bar economic development though and the question is why not? We have to begin to really look at how we treat Supreme Court decisions across this country. And the further proceedings of this case in the sale of Domtar and rezoning of Chaudiere Island the ignorance and lack of acknowledgement and understanding seems to continue this ignorance?

Algonquin Grandfather William Commanda, before his death, clearly stated his vision for Victoria Island but had also made statements both written and orally to the fact that the entire area - Victoria Island, Chaudiere Island and the falls were part of a whole and sacred site. His vision was heard by the city. While I recognize that heritage tributes are slated in the proposal, ie plaques, names of streets etc. this is not in any way shape or form respect for what is Algonquin unceded territory, let alone a sacred area or in line with and respectful of Commanda's overall vision.

It does not begin to recognize this underlying truth.

I stand against rezoning.

Noreen Kruzich

**From:** Nguyen, Hieu  
**Sent:** Monday, September 29, 2014 10:14 AM  
**To:** 'Robert A. Lavigne'  
**Cc:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher  
**Subject:** RE: Rezoning of Chaudiere Island

Hello Mr. Lavigne,

By way of this email, I confirmed I have received your comments on the report. I have CC'd Christopher Zwierzchowski, the coordinator of the Planning Committee who will add your comments as an official written submission to be considered by the Planning Committee.

Sincerely,  
 Hieu

**Hieu Nguyen, MCIP, RPP**  
**Planner II | Urbaniste II**  
 Development Review, Urban Services | Examen des projets d'aménagement  
 City of Ottawa | Ville d'Ottawa

[hieu.nguyen@ottawa.ca](mailto:hieu.nguyen@ottawa.ca)  
 ☎ 613.580.2424 ext./poste 26936  
[ottawa.ca/planning](http://ottawa.ca/planning) | [ottawa.ca/urbanisme](http://ottawa.ca/urbanisme)



**From:** Robert A. Lavigne  
**Sent:** September 28, 2014 7:56 PM  
**To:** Nguyen, Hieu  
**Subject:** Rezoning of Chaudiere Island

Mr. Nguyen,

Chaudière Island or Victoria Island has been part of our cultural heritage long before the Europeans arrived...it is a sacred site for us. Now it is sandwiched between the Museum of History and the War Museum...and it stands there as a legacy to the First Peoples of this Country... I know that the present federal government has very little respect for our Aboriginal Rights and it keeps on undermining everyone of our initiatives, but I pray that the City of Ottawa would have the decency to stop the development of this sacred site and allow the realization of Dr. William Commanda's dream of a Circle of All Nations.

I will be out of town on Thursday morning, but I would like my submission to be added to the others.

There are other places to build condos and bars...please Respect this SACRED PLACE AND GIVE IT BACK TO IT'S RIGHTFUL OWNERS.

Thank you

Robert A. Lavigne  
 Human Relations Consultant



**From:** Paul LeBlanc  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 01, 2014 3:43 PM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher; Nguyen, Hieu  
**Subject:** ACS2014-PAI-PGM-0181 Official Plan and zoning By-Law Amendments - 3 and 4 Booth Street - Chaudiere and Albert Islands

Please accept this submission in writing with respect to the public meeting of Oct 2 2014 at 9:30 am, from me a traditional ceremonial metis person, supporter of the Circle of all Nations founded by the late Algonquin elder Dr. Grandfather William Commanda holder of the key to Ottawa, with respect to to his legacy Vision for the Sacred Chaudiere site. I wish to speak at the meeting tomorrow. I also wish to be notified of the outcomes of the public meeting and to be added as party to the hearing of any appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board.

Paul LeBlanc

30 September 2014

Christopher Zwierzchowski  
City of Ottawa Planning Committee Coordinator  
110 Laurier Avenue West  
Ottawa, ON K1P 1J1

**BY E-MAIL ONLY**

[christopher.zwierzchowski@ottawa.ca](mailto:christopher.zwierzchowski@ottawa.ca)

Mr. Zwierzchowski,

As an Omaamiwinini Anishinaabe, I am deeply concerned of the proposed recommendation that the City of Ottawa Planning Committee recommend that council approve both an amendment to the Lebreton Flats Central Area Secondary Plan to allow for a mixed-use community at 3 and 4 Booth Street (Chaudière and Albert Islands), and an amendment to Zoning By-law 2008-250 to change the zoning at 3 and 4 Booth Street from Parks and Open Space to a Downtown Mixed-Use zone to allow for a mixed-use development and Major Leisure Facility zone on new park lands. This land – Victoria, Albert and Chaudiere Islands – are the sacred lands to Anishinaabe people. To approve these recommendations would be utterly devastating to all First Nations throughout Canada and North America, also known as Turtle Island, as well as people of all nations.

The significance of this area has been documented by early explorers, including Samuel de Champlain, as a site of well-known spiritual significance for First Nations people. In his journey up the Kichissippi in 1613, Champlain and his crew witnessed Indians offering tobacco to “la Chaudière” and was quite impressed by the majesty of the falls. Champlain records his impression of Chaudière by stating *“the water falls... with such impetuosity on a rock that with the passage of time it has hollowed out a wide, deep basin. The water whirls about to such an extent, and in the middle boils so vigorously, that Indians call it “Asticou”, that is to say, a kettle. This waterfall makes such a noise in this basin that one can hear it from more than two leagues away...”*

The land in the vicinity of Chaudière Falls is known to Anishinaabe as Asinabka (“the place of glare rock”), and includes Victoria, Albert and Chaudière Islands. **This land has been one of the most sacred sites throughout all of Turtle Island since time immemorial.** At one time the water of the Kichissippi (the Algonquin word meaning the Ottawa River, which roughly translates to “big river” in Algonquin) – the blood of Mother Earth – was able to flow freely through this area, to carry our prayers and to provide healing and nourishment to our people. This area was once the site of significant Kichissippi Pimisi (“big river eel” in Algonquin) passage, where our people were once able to harvest over a thousand eel a night and provide healthy meals for an entire village.

It is shameful that this sacred land was forcibly removed from Anishinaabe hands long ago and given to industry for development which has almost destroyed the abundant fisheries of the Ottawa River and gravely polluted our waters. As there is no longer any need for this land to be leased to industry, I ask that you consider that this area remain a natural park space where First Nations, and All Nations, can gather together in peace with our Mother, the earth, for thousands of years to come. It is a shame that we have been denied access to this sacred site for over 100 years, given that Chaudière Falls is located in the heart of Algonquin Traditional Territory, and on unceded Algonquin land. We wish that this land will be given back to Mother Earth, entrusted to the Anishinaabe as stewards of the land, and never slated for development. Should this land be re-zoned to accommodate a large scale mixed-used development, there will never be a time when this sacred landscape will be returned to the Anishinaabe people.

Algonquin Grandfather William Commanda had a vision for Asinabka, as clearly articulated through his life work and the Circle of All Nations. Grandfather Commanda was the holder of three sacred wampum belts of the Anishnaabe (including the Seven Fires Prophecy Belt), a pipe carrier, the former Chief of Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg and the recipient of a number of prestigious awards including the Order of Canada. Perhaps most importantly, Grandfather Commanda worked tirelessly for the protection and preservation of our sacred Chaudière Falls until his death in 2011. Along with Douglas Cardinal, Architect, and the National Capital Commission, Grandfather Commanda envisioned a Circle of All Nations, a place where people of all heritages could gather in a natural setting on the islands amongst the incredible Chaudière Falls.

As an Ojibwe Anishinaabe woman, I ask that you please reconsider your recommendation to re-zone our sacred lands. On behalf of all people on Turtle Island and throughout the world, we request that you make the right decision to keep this sacred land zoned as a park for all people to enjoy forever.

Chi-müigwetch.

Christine Luckasavitch

**From:** Greg Macdougall  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 01, 2014 1:27 PM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher  
**Cc:** Nguyen, Hieu  
**Subject:** Register to speak/submit to Planning Committee Oct 2

Hello Christopher,

I tried to call you to register to speak tomorrow, but it went to voicemail and then said your mailbox was full

Please register me for the speaker's list for tomorrow's Planning Committee meeting, to speak to the Chaudiere and Albert Islands rezoning proposal

Also, I would like to submit a 10-minute video of Architect Douglas Cardinal speaking to the spiritual importance of the site for the Anishinaabe (First Nations) peoples, and matters related to its development, for the committee members' consideration:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UeFqbRBU5mk>

Thank you,  
Greg Macdougall

"Don't ask yourself what the world needs. Ask yourself what makes you come alive and then go do that. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive." - Howard Thurman

**From:** Zoe Maggio  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 01, 2014 11:59 PM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher  
**Cc:** Nguyen, Hieu; Watson, Jim (Mayor/Maire); Holmes, Diane  
**Subject:** Written Submission re. Re-zonine of 3 and 4 Booth Street, Chaudiere Falls and Islands (Asinabka)

Wednesday, October 1, 2014

To the attention of: Christopher Zwierzchowski  
 Planning Committee Coordinator,  
 City of Ottawa

Hieu Nguyen  
 Planner, Planning and Growth Management Department

Dear Christopher Zwierzchowski and Hieu Nguyen,

Ahead of the Planning Committee’s meeting tomorrow, I would like to express my strong opposition to the proposed re-zoning of 3 and 4 Booth Street (Chaudiere and Albert Islands) and of the Windmill Development proposal.

This area remains unceded and unsurrendered Anishinaabe (Algonquin) land (as does all of the Ottawa River watershed). I wish to express my support for the Algonquin people to decide what will take place on the land that has always belonged to them, despite centuries of colonial violence and theft. The vision shared by the late Anishinaabe Elder William Commanda, carrier of the sacred Wampum belts, for the Chaudiere Falls and Islands (Asinabka) has never been meaningfully considered by the Municipalities of Ottawa and Gatineau, other levels of government, nor by any of the companies who have built or propose to build there.

Commanda’s vision, one that has long been endorsed by Algonquin Elders and the Algonquin Communities of Ontario and Quebec, is one of healing, cross-cultural dialogue, peace building and reconciliation.

I urge the City of Ottawa to listen to and to respect the self-determination of the Indigenous peoples of this land in a spirit of justice and decolonization.

Sincerely,

Zoë Maggio

Good Morning

As a Spiritual Director, student of the late Grandfather William Commanda and as a concerned Canadian. I am speaking as a private citizen on what for me is a deep moral, ethical and spiritual issue if these islands are rezoned and developed as these plans stand.

I am thankful for this opportunity to speak on sacred unceded Algonquin/Asinabka land. With this presentation I would like to express my opposition to this rezoning. And my concern that if this Council approves these plans and they go to the OMB that 75 to 80 percent of the board's decisions are said to go in favor of developers. Article Centretown News Sept. 26.

I am concerned about the process that Windmill Development used in consulting with the Algonquin people and their leaders. I do not feel attention was fully given to have their voices fully being heard.

I draw your attention to:

West Quebec Post Sept. 5-11. "After years of division Historic first meeting of Algonquin Nation Chiefs to discuss recent Supreme Court decision."

I would ask have all the eight Chiefs of the Algonquin Nation listed in this article been listened to carefully by Windmill Developers and the cities of Ottawa and Gatineau? To see how they feel the effects on the water and the islands around such a massive development would affect the eco system of the already polluted Ottawa River?

See article West Quebec Post of Sept. 19-25 "Petition to protect Ottawa River tabled in House of Commons."

According to MP Paul Dewar roughly 500 million litres of raw sewage is dumped out of city storm pipes into the Ottawa River every year. It will cost \$65 million each from provincial and federal governments to action the third phase of the Ottawa River Plan. The bigger vision of Grandfather Commanda was to Free the Ring Dam from Chaudière Falls so the Falls could be freed to cleanse the island

shores of all these islands and the waters of our rivers, lakes and oceans naturally. Water is vital to the planet and our own health.

Canadian Press Sept. 26 has a researcher warning of looming catastrophe regarding the Beluga white whale in the St. Lawrence becoming an endangered species. Before Chaudière Falls was blocked for industry and power, the Asinabka people's main food was eels. Similar to eels, the buffalo and now the salmon their food staple in B.C. is now also threatened by a mining disaster at Pawley Lake. That is why the recent Supreme Court ruling is so important! And for us all and your discernment in this matter.

I agree with R. Thumbadoo " We are in deep need for a new vision to shine light into an ever more challenging global future."

On page 53 "Critical contemporary and international relevance and importance of Late Algonquin Elder, Dr. William Commanda's (OC) legacy Indigenous vision for the area is expressed.

I would like to quote the Mission:

It is to vitalize and celebrate a strong, unified Indigenous presence in the sacred heart of the country, inspiring passion for environmental stewardship and peace building, consistent with the deep understanding of the central ancestral prayer of the land : Glnawaydaganuc, We Are All Connected, thereby ensuring a sustainable future for Seven Generations.

Article West Quebec Post Sept. 19-25 "Aboriginal title claimed in Quebec: 80,000 square kilometer." Is indicative of our Aboriginal sisters and brothers standing up for us and the Earth and what our overzealous development and industry are still doing to the ecology of our one home, planet Earth.

There is a deep connection between spirituality and service in social advocacy for our grandchildren's grandchildren. For us to learn to care for the Earth and water, is a cause bigger than ourselves. The reason I am here today.

Are the public and Canadian leaders aware of the deep religious, spiritual, historical, archeological and heritage significance of all these islands and the

Chaudière Falls to the Anishinaabekwe Peoples from across North America from sea to sea and North to South? And to the world as other Holy sacred places, this was their Mecca all of these islands and the Falls are interconnected. I invite you to be sure to view this 10 minute video of Douglas Cardinal speaking about the sacredness of this area ( including all the islands and Chaudière Falls and his thoughts of the proposed condominiums along with the Indigenous vision for this sacred site that has been in the works for over 30 years:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UeFqbRBU5mk> or go to our website [www.birthottawagatineau.com](http://www.birthottawagatineau.com) as well to hear Elder Albert Dumont speak to the Spirituality, Significance and Responsibility of Chaudière Falls. On this site there are photos of the Falls freed of the Ring dam and a petition to Mayor Jim Watson to Free the Falls.

This was their Mecca the meeting place of the power of nature and the Falls once visited as much as Niagara Falls before the Ring Dam to this day that makes both the Falls and to some degree the Algonquin/Asinabka people invisible and not heard.

If we do not learn and know our own rich spiritual, cultural history and heritage how can we create together a healthy society and democracy the envy of the world. And be a beacon of light and hope that is so much needed.

From page 48 item R.V. Thumbadoo [www.circleofallnations.com](http://www.circleofallnations.com)  
[www.asinabka.com](http://www.asinabka.com) Land issues and Algonquin territorial claims we read:

In 2007, Domtar representative F. Jette revealed that his company leased the Chaudiere Island property in perpetuity for approximately \$100 a year, renewable every twenty years, a leasing arrangement developed in 1856, after Algonquin people had been driven from the area. In 2008, and 2014, Circle of All Nations ( with William Commanda first and Douglas Cardinal subsequently) wrote Domtar to propose a non-contentious return of the Sacred Chaudiere Site for the creation of the Asinabka legacy vision of William Commanda, a gesture of reconciliation and karmic rebalancing, a gesture that would be beneficial to both First Peoples and all others now occupying their ancestral lands. To this date it has not manifested rather we are here today Saying No to privatization in this offer of



Windmill to purchase land and develop up to 1200 condominiums or private residences? 4,800 square meters for retail, 17,000 square metres for office, and a hotel to be on these sacred Chaudiere and Albert islands. Land that is unceded territory and that was leased to Domtar should be returned to the Canadian people.

There are three visions for this land.

1. Keep it in its polluted state and not hold anyone accountable.
2. Or clean it up inviting all Canadians to participate with Windmill, business, corporations and all echelons of government as a awesome way to celebrate Canada as a leader in creating a new economy of ecology and jobs for our 2017 year of Confederation and our 150<sup>th</sup> birthdate. Honoring Grandfather William Commanda Canada's Nelson Mandela and his legacy and vision.
2. Allow Domtar to sell this land to Windmill rezone and privatize this land with more people living and more sewerage running g into the Ottawa River and transit challenges that pollute our air and water with increasing violent storms due to climate change . I am not sure many Canadians know that the National Capital Commission is responsible for caring for all the lands in the National Capital Region in Perpetuity for all the Canadian people and that it was always assumed that the NCC would be acquiring the island and that they would be developed under their direction. The NCC noted that Aboriginals were here long before the English or the French.

I never thought I would agree with John Baird but on CTV news six o'clock news on Tuesday, Sept. 30 he and the Chair of the NCC were discussing the redevelopment and cleaning of the Lebreton Flats.

His message rings loud in my ears for also Chaudière and Albert Islands.

" Yeh, we could slap up some ugly soulless condominiums very quickly but let's take our time to get it right." Thank you all for listening and getting it right and for the opportunity to share. Please keep me abreast.

Judith. Matheson

City of Ottawa  
Planning Department

Attention: Mrs. Hieu Nguyen, Planner – Planning and Growth Management  
Department and Mr. Christopher Wwierzchowski, Committee Coordinator

**Re: ACS2014-PAI-PGM-0181 Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments - 3  
and 4 Booth Street – Chaudière and Albert Islands**

My name is Larry McDermott. I am an Algonquin member of the Shabot Obaadjiwan First Nation where Chief and Council have appointed me Ambassador. For many years I had the privilege of working with Algonquin Elder, Doctor William Commanda, also appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada and tireless advocate for peace, reconciliation and respect for all peoples and their cultures. He founded the Circle of All Nations and I was blessed to share in his vision for a contemporary world where racism was a distant memory.

I served for 28 years in municipal government frequently seeking William's council as I sought ways to honour the sacred wampum belts and their instructions as animated by him in my work. I was the first Rural Forum chair of the Federation of Municipalities and was elected the first chair of the Aboriginal-Municipal Partnership. I also served the City of Ottawa through the Rural Committee in its early days after bringing in surrounding rural municipalities.

I was with Dr. Commanda frequently when he sought feed-back, developed his vision further and built support for a National Indigenous Centre and associated green space for a dynamic centre of healing, celebration and reconciliation. This vision is based on several millennia of activity linked to the sacred power of these and nearby islands. Indigenous peoples from much of Turtle Island gave their tobacco offerings for peace and thanks to Mother Earth for her continued generosity at this site. Dr. Commanda's vision reflected on the importance of returning Chaudière, Albert and Victoria Islands power to all those who share this great land we call Canada and to share with our international guests from the four corners of the world.

I personally have attended hundreds of events at this sacred site. I have been there with people from various Algonquin communities, other First Nations, Inuit and Metis along with Canadians from all over the world and guests who have come to share with us from several countries around the globe. Together we have prayed, sang, celebrated, conducted our sacred ceremonies, and shared our stories and food with young and old.

As a human rights advocate I am mindful of the fact that the Canadian Association of Statutory Human Rights Agencies (CASHRA) of which the Human Rights Commissions of Canada, Ontario and Quebec are members has passed a motion "calling upon all orders of government to endorse and implement the United

Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples." A special committee has been set up within CASHRA for this purpose.

The *Declaration* at Article 43 – The rights recognized herein constitute the minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the indigenous peoples of the world.

Examples of some of these rights include at:

Article 8.1. Indigenous peoples have the right not to be subjected to forced assimilation or the destruction of their culture.

Article 25. Indigenous Peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship with their traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used lands, territories, waters and coastal seas and other resources and to uphold their responsibilities to future generations in this regard.

As Article 25 clearly states rights are needed to uphold responsibilities. These responsibilities are not only to future generations but to the Creator and to Mother Earth. In fact, the three figured wampum belt that Dr. Commanda carried spoke to the responsibility of the French and English to share with Indigenous peoples the responsibility to live within the limits of natural law. This responsibility was to be led by the partner who had the most experience with the land – Indigenous peoples.

Greed and arrogance have resulted in unprecedented destruction of the very life that sustains us. As a result, the United Nations with strong participation by Canada organized the Earth Summit in 1992 to establish treaties to guide development for a sustainable future for all. The treaties associated with climate change and biological diversity recognized the fact that "indigenous peoples have a vital role to play" in achieving the goals of these treaties. These are goals associated with sustaining healthy living for all our future generations both Indigenous and those who identify otherwise. These shared goals are very much threatened as I speak.

So supporting a human rights based framework that respects Indigenous cultures is important and valuable to everyone. Any development that weakens Indigenous cultures weakens everyone. Any municipal Official Plan in Canada that ignores this truth is fundamentally flawed and will harm rather than strengthen the community of people it is designed to serve.

At a recent meeting of Algonquin people in Pembroke led by Elder and Architect Douglas Cardinal virtually everyone was adamant that we must stand united to protect and restore the sacred Chaudière, Albert and Victoria Islands. In fact one of the Algonquin Nation Representatives said we must open up and work with other First Nations and others who share our commitment to protect this sacred space.

The Official Plan should not be amended as proposed in the aforementioned application and it would be wrong to change the zoning by-law.

Lets unite and as Doctor William Commanda always said "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."

Chi miigwetch,

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:**

Larry McDermott

**From:** Julie Mealin  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 01, 2014 6:21 PM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher; Nguyen, Hieu; Jort-Conway, Melissa  
**Cc:**

**Subject:** OPPOSITION to the rezoning of Chaudière Falls in Gatineau  
**Attachments:** ATT00001.htm; Official Plan and Zoning - 3 and 4 Booth Street - Hieu Nguyen - letter.pdf; ATT00002.htm

Hello Mr. Zwierzchowski, Mr. Nguyen, Mme Jort,

I am a canadian citizen and deeply concerned with the *Official Plan and Zoning by-law Amendments - 3 and 4 Booth Street* which will be discussed tomorrow October 2, 2014, at a meeting organized by the Ottawa Urban Planning Commission.

It concerns the **proposed rezoning** of the historical and culture site of **Chaudière Falls** and I want to voice my firm **opposition** to this project.

Please read this quote from Lindsay Lambert, historian:

In addition to describing the spiritual and historical importance of the Falls, I will point out that the City lacks jurisdiction: The area is unceded Algonquin territory. Under the Royal Proclamation of 1763, settlement of Aboriginal lands was prohibited unless they were first ceded to or purchased by the Crown. This wasn't done here. People were simply pushed aside, and have been petitioning for their title ever since. It is also Crown Land, which the Federal Government is supposed to administer on behalf of all Canadians. It doesn't belong to Ottawa. Industrialist E.B. Eddy was given a \$100.00 a year lease at the beginning of the last century, so the waters could be harnessed for pulp & paper production, when that would have been considered for the greater public good. Paper manufacturer Domtar closed the mills in 2007, ending the industrial use. The lease should have been null & void at that point.

The Portage Trail around the Chaudiere Falls was designated a National Historic Site in 1927. The rocks have been worn smooth by the feet of countless Voyageurs and Aboriginal people before them. The Quebec government has named a couple of the buildings established at the Falls as Provincial Heritage Sites. It's bizarre that the Chaudiere Falls themselves, which are reason for all the latter, shouldn't be considered worth designating or restoring.

Tomorrow I hope many citizens will point out the lack of jurisdiction on this case and will ask questions on who owns the land and who will benefit from this natural and historical site.

I will do all that I can to make this case known to the media and citizens of Quebec and Canada.

I sincerely hope there will be enough opposition to block this rezoning proposition.

Regards,

^ ^

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:  
JULIE MÉALIN**

✓

## The Sacred Chaudière Islands – a national and international heritage site

We, the undersigned, strongly **oppose** the proposed change of Zoning By-Law 2008-250 for 3 and 4 Booth St (Chaudière and Albert Islands) from “Parks and Open Space” to “Downtown Mixed-Use”.

Chaudière and Albert Islands, together with Victoria Island, should remain publicly- owned parkland because they are a priceless part of our country’s natural and historical heritage, right in the very heart of our capital city. For thousands of years, Indigenous nations gathered on these islands from all over North America to honour *Akikpautik*, the *Place of glare rock* - the sacred circular falls we now call Chaudière.

The natural, historical and religious heritage of the Chaudière Islands is nothing new to the City of Ottawa. In 2006, Ottawa gave the key to the city to the late Algonquin Elder William Commanda for his vision to revitalise the Sacred Chaudière Islands, and later endorsed this proposal in 2010. William Commanda envisioned the magnificent Chaudière falls freed of the dam; he saw the islands as a place of reconciliation and healing at the heart of our country – healing of Indigenous peoples, healing of relationships between all peoples and healing of our relationship with Mother Earth. The Chaudière and Albert islands would not be another downtown mix of condos, offices and shops; instead they would host an ecological park showcasing Indigenous ancestral knowledge of the local ecosystem and a historical interpretation centre where visitors could learn of the site’s archeological, Indigenous and industrial heritage. Renowned architect Douglas Cardinal has created a brilliant concept for the islands that brings to life Elder Commanda’s vision for peace and the bridging of world cultures. It would include an international peace conference centre and hotel, as well as an Aboriginal healing centre.

Ottawa’s Official Plan currently accommodates this vision of Chaudière and Albert Islands, as well as Victoria Island, by maintaining their use as public park area. Indeed, the whole Chaudière Islands site should be considered a national heritage site and a world heritage site. This ancient sacred site of the Algonquin peoples is a national treasure in the heart of Ottawa, waiting to be recognized and to attract visitors from all over the world.

The case for designating Chaudière Islands as a national historic site is based on the following considerations:

1. Geological history and ancient Paleolithic peoples

Current geological studies are bringing to light the unique role of the Ottawa River Watershed in the earth’s evolution. For example, stromatolites have been found near Ottawa, revealing the fossil record of cyanobacteria that contributed to making Earth’s oxygen-rich atmosphere 3.5 billion years ago. Our area also has archeological evidence related to the beginnings of human history: signs of an ancient Paleolithic people who lived as mariners by the Champlain Sea, which was formed here about 10,000 years ago after the last Ice Age. The ancestral legends of our region’s First Peoples reflect aspects of the area’s geological history.

## 2. An amazing natural treasure

According to archeological evidence, Indigenous Peoples travelled to the Chaudière Falls from across North America for thousands of years. It was a place of enormous spiritual significance. At this sacred meeting place, they paid homage to the roiling, life-giving waters of Mother Earth. The circular *Akikpautik* symbolized the bowl of the sacred pipe, with the water's continuous upward spray taking the prayers of the people to the cosmic creator.

This amazing natural treasure was revered for thousands of years and much admired throughout our country's colonial period, but was dammed during Ottawa's industrial past to provide sawmills and hydro-electricity. Today we can generate hydro-electric power in new ways without damming this spectacular site. It's time for Ottawa to free the falls; to wake up to the significance and eco-tourism potential of a capital city graced by spectacular falls once deemed second only to Niagara Falls.

## 3. Ecological significance

Victoria Island was recently identified as a site for the endangered American Eel, known as *Manoshkadosh* by the Algonquin. In the words of William Commanda: "this unique and mysterious ancient creature was of tremendous significance to the original peoples of the eastern coast of North America, and in the stories of my ancestors, it was plentiful beyond imagination". Freeing the falls would greatly help the survival of the eels, as they would no longer be crushed in the turbines; it would also support the threatened lake sturgeon, a prehistoric "living fossil" and the largest freshwater fish in Canada. The waters of Chaudière Falls, according to Indigenous wisdom, are running through the veins of Mother Earth, providing for all life through the earth's cleansing cycles. We must be stewards of the water and the planet.

## 4. Religious significance

The Chaudière site has long been a sacred meeting place for Indigenous peoples from across North America. Archeological finds from 5,000 to 6,000 years ago include turquoise from Mexico, copper from Lake Superior and ramah chert from Labrador, indicating the ceremonial importance of the site. In the 1600s, Champlain described the rituals held here and French missionaries noted the sacred fires of sweat lodges dotting the landscape. In 1803, the Algonquins of Lac Commandant (William Commanda's people) objected to Philemon Wright's cutting their sugar maples and conducted a conciliatory ceremony at the Chaudière site. With pulp and paper mills contaminating the site throughout the 1800s, the Algonquin presence grew less visible but was not extinguished. The 1990s saw the active return of Indigenous peoples and their ceremonies to Victoria Island, which continue to this day. The sacred Chaudière Islands are not only an ancient ceremonial site but also a present day place of worship for today's Indigenous peoples.



#### 5. A place of peace and intercultural exchange

The Anishinabe – original people – of this region have a tradition of welcoming people of other nations and entering into agreements with them to share the land and resources; these treaties are recorded in their sacred wampum belts. The Chaudière Islands were a place of peace, where nations negotiated relationships with each other in harmony with the nature that sustained them.

Canada has inherited the Indigenous tradition of welcoming migrants from all over the world to share the land and build our country. In a world ravaged by war and conflict, the Chaudière Islands' heritage represents a culture of peace for all humanity in the heart of Canada's capital.

Protecting Chaudière Islands is crucial to all Canadians in helping to rebuild the broken relationship between Canada and Indigenous Peoples. We urgently need a deep reconciliation in the wake of Canada's colonial dispossession and abuses of the First Peoples. As we learn from Indigenous traditional knowledge about our deep interconnectedness with nature, many Canadians now realize that our healthy living is inextricably linked to the well-being of Indigenous peoples.

Jean Pigot, National Capital Commission Chair in the 1970s, wanted Indigenous peoples to be recognized in the capital as a founding nation, along with the French and the English. She identified the Chaudière Islands as a potential location for a National Indigenous Centre. William Commanda's inspired vision for these islands as a world centre for peace and reconciliation was endorsed by NCC chair Marcel Beaudry in 2006 and by the City of Ottawa in December 2010.

We urge the City of Ottawa **not** to rezone this priceless heritage land for commercial development. Honour your word and do not renege on your endorsement of Chaudière Islands as a public centre of peace, healing and reconciliation of all peoples and of the environment in the heart of Canada's capital.

Karin Hugues

Yvele Paquette

Eleanor Moore

Susanne Taylor

Bonnie Dillon

Elise Mennie

51

**From:** Alain Michaud  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 30, 2014 12:35 PM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher; Fleury, Mathieu; Watson, Jim  
(Mayor/Maire)  
**Subject:** Projet de re-zonage des îles Chaudière, Victoria et Albert

Messieurs,

Je vous écrit pour vous implorer de ne pas modifier le zonage des îles sus-mentionnées. Ces îles sont un trait d'union entre les trois peuples fondateurs du Canada. Elles représentent l'essence même de notre pays!

Je vous remercie de votre attention,

Alain Michaud

**Submission to the Planning Committee of the City of Ottawa  
Regarding Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments -- 3 and 4 Booth Street**

With this submission I would like to express my opposition to the recommendation of the Report of the City of Ottawa Planning Committee.

I agree with the benefits of some development that again creates a vibrant meeting place on the Chaudiere and Albert Islands. And I congratulate the proposal for its efforts to incorporate features which aim to create the views of the tremendously beautiful sights to minimize the ecological footprint. However, I feel that the proposal needs to go further.

In particular, my interest is to ensure that the development of the islands incorporates sufficient space and design that recognizes the multiple layers of historical, religious, cultural, economic, and political significance of the site and this part of the Ottawa River.

The report of the Planning Committee (see page 11) states that the Cultural Heritage Impact Statement provided by Windmill Development meets City requirements. However, the statement focusses almost exclusively on the islands' history as an industrial site and mentions only by way of introduction that the area has been historically significant for thousands of years, both as a meeting place and as part of an important travel route to the lands further west and north, for Indigenous Peoples and Europeans.

The Chaudiere Falls are a religious site to the Algonquin people. When the ancestors of Algonquin Elder William Commanda met the first European occupier of this site, Philomenon Wright, at the very beginning of the 1800s, they asserted the special significance of the place, as documented in Wright's own papers. Indeed, the fact that it was considered a sacred site to the Algonquin of this watershed was already affirmed in Champlain's records in 1613. During the last twenty-five years of his life, commencing with the 1987 Constitutional Debates, William Commanda repeatedly asserted attachment and responsibility in this area.

The proposed recommendation in my assessment does not reflect this important religious, historical and forward-looking cultural significance, as well as the opportunity to build a magnificent space celebrating Ottawa through the ages. To the contrary, by aiming to retain the industrial buildings to the greatest degree possible, the proposal limits the vision to the narrow focus of its industrial use.

I would like the recommendation of the Report to the Planning Committee be amended to include the following requirements in Document 6:

- Provide a minimum 8 meter minimum park or green space along the banks of Chaudière Island to allow the public to experience the spiritual, historical and ecological significance of this part of the Ottawa the river, the cliffs and the Chaudière Falls.
- Include an accessible path along the full length of the north shore of Chaudière Island, so that it is possible for the public to walk the full circle along both sides of the river from the locks to the Chaudière Falls and the Canadian Museum of History, as a celebration of the meeting place that brings nations together.
- Dismantle the Booth Board Mill Complex, as it represents a barrier to the waterfront path from

Victoria Island to the Chaudière Falls. Also, it overpowers the multi-dimensional importance of the site in favour of an industrial focus. Any new building at the north side of Chaudière Island should be designed to blend into or complement the spiritual and natural character of the river and not disrupt the path along the banks.

-- Limit construction to two buildings of 15 stories. (While the notice of the Planning Committee mentioned 12-15 stories as examples for the height of buildings with more than nine stories, the Zoning By-Lay Amendment Height Schedule [p.26] indicates 73.0 m and 68.0 meters as maximum permitted building height, which would be about 24 and 21 stories, respectively, if I am estimating correctly.)

For the reasons above, I oppose the report recommendation, as presented. In summary, I would like to urge you to develop the site in a manner that incorporates the required space and design to recognize the multiple layers of historical, religious, cultural, and economic significance.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendolyn Miller

Dear committee, supporters, survivors and immigrants,

My name is Mehrangiz Zaynab Monsef, born in Heart, Afghanistan and currently residing on the Missisauga Anishnaabe Territory called Nogojiwanong or Peterborough, ON. I am writing to you to ask that you not adopt the proposed plans to develop Chaudiere falls and you not allow for the zoning changes to develop Chaudiere Island, or any other plans that are outside the plans of the Asinabke Indigenous Peace-Building Centre.

There are many fundamental reasons why this sacred/traditional/religious place located on the unceded Algonquin territory should remain as a sacred, traditional religious site and while there are not enough words or the right words to express this in its entirety, I will make the attempt. The next paragraphs outline just a handful of many reasons why this sacred/religious site and any decisions about this sacred site needs to be guided and decided on by the Algonquin Peoples themselves.

#### **Previous plans and vision for this site**

The visioning and planning for this sacred site has been in place by Algonquin Elder William Commanda and his work with The Circle Of All Nations, A Culture of Peace to reserve this site for The Indigenous Peace-Building Centre, the initial visioning hopes and planning of which dating many many years and eons back. I would like to direct your attention here to the writings that explain this visioning more fully. This excerpt was taken out of a book called 'Learning from a Kindergarten drop out: William Commanda - Okigkwanong Cultural Sharings and Reflections' by Ramola Vasantha Thumbadoo (a highly recommended read);

"This is a vision for the healing of the indigenous peoples, the healing of the relationships with all others and the healing of our relationship with mother earth. It is a vision for a place where all the world can find its home. This vision incorporates a hope for Mother Earth and all her children from all over the world in one tiny spot on the globe. It foresees a future where the sacred Chaudiere Rapids can run freely again and can symbolize the reconciliation with the waters; where the concrete clad Chaudiere Island can become a forested wild space in the heart of the country and can serve as a messenger to the rest of the world that we can look for ways to offset the urban concrete & unbalanced heating of earth; where the indigenous peoples can regain their strength and heritage in an indigenous centre dedicated to their development; where they can then share their world, their culture, their food and dance with all others in the spirit of peace building in a conference and banquet centre, and where feet can once again pound their prayers and reverence on the sacred island of fire and the spirit of the pow wows of old ignite and inspire." (pg. 158)

#### **Religious/Sacred/Spiritual Site**

Just last month I heard the following at the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Circle of All Nations Peace Gathering held in Ottawa at the Public Services Alliances Canada on September 21, 2014. I heard Architect and activist Douglas Cardinal say these words that I think

are important reminders for us immigrants on this land (I am paraphrasing here): "The Anishnaabe people have allowed people from other countries, cultures, religions to live on the land, share its beauty and what it offers, and allow others to [without discrimination] practice their spiritual beliefs". So then I ask you why is it that we cannot protect this right and offer the same thing for the Original peoples and hosts of this nation??

### **Human Rights Violation/violation of international laws**

Here are two out of many articles outlined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that you would be violating if you were to allow for this religious site to be developed by Windmill or any other developer, organization/group other than what the Anishnaabe Peoples themselves choose to place or do with this traditional Algonquin land:

*Article 11 (1):* Indigenous peoples have the right to practice and revitalize their cultural traditions and customs. This includes the right to maintain, protect and develop the past, present and future manifestations of their cultures, such as archaeological and historical sites, artifacts, designs, ceremonies, technologies and visual and performing art and literature.

*Article 12 (1):* Indigenous peoples have the right to manifest, practice, develop and teach their spiritual and religious traditions, customs and ceremonies; the right to maintain, protect and have access to privacy to their religious and cultural sites; the right to the use and control of their ceremonial objects; and the right to the repatriation of their human remains

### **Prior Informed Consent**

Canada has made its share of mistakes, some of which they have apologized for and claim they have learned from. If this is true, then I ask you, why is it that we continue to make decisions for the Indigenous Peoples and make decisions about their lands rather than allowing them to make such decisions. And I ask you why do some of us stand on the sidelines as bystanders and allow such violations to occur?

**The visioning that is in place for Asinabke (Place of Glare Rock) is one that is beneficial to us all, including all other living beings like the trees, like the plants, like the animals, like birds, like the insects, like the water and more...**

This place is not only a place for the healing of Indigenous Peoples of Turtle Island (North America), but it's also for the healing of all nations. It's a place or site for sharing all indigenous cultures, values and ideologies, it's a place to heal relationships with all others, and heal relationships with the earth. And from where I stand, the state in which our world is in right now, we could really use a place like this that promotes racial harmony, peace building and restoring the respect for the earth.

### **Personal Reasons**

I have many personal reasons why for the sake of your time I will limit it and share with you only my personal connection and experience standing on this sacred site being first invited to attend and participate in the Paddle for Peace Gathering and what it's vision stands for.

Over the last two years I have been reading the works of Elder William Commanda, and more specifically *The Circle of All Nations, A Culture of Peace*. I find great refuge under his visioning, a vision and place that not only keeps Anishnaabe people in mind, but also all other human beings from all different races, and a vision that also protects and shelters and protects the other beings that give us life who do not have a voice like the water, like the animals, like the land.

There are many challenges and dysfunctions in our world today, we are really at a cross road and the only way we will move forward and ensure that life continues for us and our kids is if we come together in a good way, in a respectful way. We must come together and work together, where each person and each race brings their gifts, their knowledge, and their energies to restore and heal this world. It is then that we can move forward. It is then that our children can move forward in a good way and they will see and learn to do the same for the generations to come.

This place Asinabke and the visioning of This Indigenous Peace Building Centre is something that has been put into place by those that came before us, with the support of the people in the present, but also for my children, and your children, our grandchildren and the future generations. So I ask you why wouldn't we want a place, a vision, a safe-haven for our future? Why wouldn't we want a place where our children can feel welcomed and loved, a place where they would be invited to come as they are, and know that there is a place in the circle for them to grow, learn and flourish?!

As mentioned earlier, these are only the things I can see from my limited view/perspective as a non-Indigenous immigrant who has settled on this land and what I have experienced. As you can see there are many reasons that we must protect this place and reserve this place for its rightful purpose while encouraging, supporting and nurturing the development of its plans for the Indigenous Peace-Building Centre to continue as the traditional spiritual meeting grounds that it has been for centuries.

More information on the visioning for Asinabke, Elder William Commanda and The Indigenous Peace-Building Centre can be found at [www.asinabka.com](http://www.asinabka.com)

I sincerely thank you for your time, support and respect for this sacred land and it's beautiful people.

With kind regards,  
Mehrangiz

Katrin Nagelschmitz

**Submission to the Planning Committee of the City of Ottawa  
Regarding Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments -- 3 and 4 Booth Street**

With this submission I would like to express my opposition to the recommendation of the Report to the Planning Committee and Council Regarding 3 and 4 Booth Street.

I agree with the benefits of some development that again creates a vibrant meeting place on the Chaudière and Albert Islands. And I congratulate the Windmill Develop Group proposal for its efforts to incorporate features that aim to create the views of the tremendously beautiful sights and to minimize the ecological footprint of the development. However, I feel that the proposal needs to go further.

In particular, my interest is to ensure that the proposal for the islands (and also the parts in Gatineau) celebrates through its use of space and design the multiple layers of historical, religious, cultural, economic, and political significance of this core part of the City of Ottawa and the Ottawa River.

The report of the Planning Committee (see page 11) states that the Cultural Heritage Impact Statement provided by Windmill Development Group meets City requirements. However, the statement focusses almost exclusively on the islands' history as an industrial site and mentions only by way of introduction that the area has been historically significant for thousands of years, both as a meeting place and as part of an important travel route to the lands further west and north, for Indigenous Peoples and Europeans.

The Chaudière Falls are a religious site to the Algonquin people. When the ancestors of Algonquin Elder William Commanda met the European occupier of this site, Philomenon Wright, at the beginning of the 1800s, they asserted the special significance of the place, as documented in Wright's own papers. Indeed, the fact that it was considered a sacred site to the Algonquin of this watershed was already affirmed in Champlain's records in 1613. During the last twenty-five years of his life, commencing with the 1987 Constitutional Debates, William Commanda repeatedly asserted attachment and responsibility in this area.

The proposal's recommendation - in my assessment - does not reflect this important religious, historical and forward-looking cultural and ecological significance, as well as the opportunity to build a magnificent space celebrating Ottawa through the ages. To the contrary, by aiming to retain the industrial buildings to the greatest degree possible, the proposal limits the vision to the narrow focus of its industrial use.

I would like the recommendation of the Report to the Planning Committee to be amended to include the following requirements:

- Provide along the banks of Chaudière Island a perimeter of park or green space that is at least 8 meter wide, to allow the public to the experience the beauty and power of this part of the Ottawa the river, the cliffs and the Chaudière Falls.



-- Include an accessible path along the full length of the north shore of Chaudière Island, so that it is possible for the public to walk the full circle along both sides of the river from the locks to the Chaudière Falls and the Canadian Museum of History, as a celebration of the meeting place it has been through the ages.

-- Dismantle the Booth Board Mill Complex, as it represents a barrier to the waterfront path from Victoria Island to the Chaudière Falls, and also overpowers the multi-dimensional importance of the area, in favour of a narrow industrial focus. Any new building at the north side of Chaudière Island should be designed to blend into or complement the spiritual and natural character of the river and not disrupt the path along the banks.

-- Limit construction to two buildings of 15 stories. (While the notice of the Planning Committee mentioned 12-15 stories as examples for the height of buildings with more than nine stories, the Zoning By-Lay Amendment Height Schedule [p.26] indicates 73.0 m and 68.0 meters as maximum permitted building height, which would be about 24 and 21 stories, respectively, if I am estimating correctly.)

For the above reasons, I oppose the report recommendation, as presented. In summary, I would like to urge you to develop the site in a manner that truly celebrates through use of space and design its multiple layers of historical, religious, cultural, and economic significance.

Respectfully submitted,  
Katrin Nagelschmitz

**From:** Anoosh Noorizadeh Kollou  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 01, 2014 10:43 AM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher  
**Cc:** Nguyen, Hieu  
**Subject:** Re: Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments - 3 and 4 Booth Street (Chaudière and Albert Island)  
**Attachments:** 2014-sept23-asinabka-heritage-rom.docx

Hello,

This is a written submission in advance of the Thursday October 2nd Ottawa Planning Committee meeting regarding the Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments - 3 and 4 Booth Street (Chaudière and Albert Island) currently owned by Domtar. I am a resident of Ottawa who has lived in Ward 14, currently residing in Ward 12.

You are considering re-zoning to facilitate Windmill's proposal to build a condominium, office space, retail space and a hotel. I urge you to re-consider and reject this proposal as it is a sacred Algonquin site. Windmill's proposal would detrimentally impact the ability to achieve the full vision of the late Algonquin spiritual leader Grandfather William Commanda for this religious/sacred site. There is extensive documentation outlining the importance of this space to the Algonquin people, attached is a document sampling some of the evidence.

The entire Ottawa River watershed is Algonquin territory, and Chaudière Falls holds a sacred position within it. This has been documented as far back as 1613 in Champlain's records and in Philomenon Wright's papers from early meetings with Algonquin leaders when founding Ottawa. Agents representing Grandfather William Commanda are more than willing to meet with City officials and Domtar to discuss repatriation of the site, the vision is to be a global hub for peace and reconciliation. In addition to rejecting the current proposal, I urge you to more proactively consult with agents of Grandfather William Commanda's vision to begin moving forward on it.

Here is a video of the architect Douglas Cardinal speaking on the issue: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UeFqBRBU5mk>

Thank you kindly for considering this submission,

Anoosh Noorizadeh-Kollou

From: Nguyen, Hieu  
 Sent: Wednesday, October 01, 2014 5:07 PM  
 To:  
 Cc: Zwierzchowski, Christopher  
 Subject: RE: Hieu Nguyen - Chaudiere Falls

Hi Delphine,

Thank you for sending in your comments. I have CC'd Chris Zwierzchowski, the Planning Committee Coordinator, to ensure your comments are provided as a written submission to the Planning Committee on the Booth St. Planning Report.

I have also added you to my notification list and you will be notified of Council's decision.

Sincerely,  
 Hieu

Development Review, Urban Area  
 613-580-2424 ext.26936  
 Mail Code: 01-14

-----Original Message-----

From:  
 Sent: October 01, 2014 4:33 PM  
 To: Nguyen, Hieu  
 Subject: Hieu Nguyen - Chaudiere Falls

Hieu Nguyen,  
 Planning and Growth Management Department  
 110 Laurier Avenue West, 4th floor, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1J1

Re: October 2, 2014 Meeting to address Zoning Changes on Chaudiere Falls, Victoria Island

A: Re: PROPOSAL IN IDENTIFYING VICTORIA ISLAND AND CHAUDIERE FALLS AS 'SACRED SPACE' TO THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

B: Re: Halt any plans to allow zoning changes to develop on Chaudiere island, including Windmill's plan to bring further development to Victoria island and Chaudiere Falls.

I am reaching out to you in regards to Victoria Island and Chaudiere Falls, the land dear to my heart and the heart of late Algonquin Elder, Grandfather William Commanda.

The importance of Chaudiere Falls and Victoria Island hold great spiritual significance both to the Algonquin and to Indigenous Peoples.

It is a place of our ancestors and carries many prayers, not only for the Algonquin and Indigenous Peoples but for the well being of Canada itself. Victoria Island has memory and prayer deep in the land, which not only holds

the land in balance for the eco-system and the animals, but for the people that live in the area. It has a great historical past and recent archaeology finds document this in length.

The cultural significance and related stories about Grandfather William Commanda's relationship with the land is well documented.

I would like to bring up a situation that came up this summer:

A group of tourists were in the area of Chaudiere Falls and when the relationship at the site was explained by an elder and visiting Native students, the tourists were rude and made snide remarks. The tourists shrugged them off and said there is nothing here on this property to say this is true and continued eating.

Having spoken with diplomacy and not wanting to make a further issue of it, due to children being present, the elder and Native American students who had traveled from the West Coast for see their heritage left the area dismayed.

In Grandfather William Commanda's long work to bring harmony and peace, he was an Ambassador of Peace and Goodwill. A proud Algonquin and Canadian, he traveled world-wide and touched many people not only in Canada and United States but throughout the world, thus being recognized by Canada with the 'Governor General Order of Canada'. He was loved not only by his people, but by many friends including heads-of-states, including Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama. Personally, I have deep love and respect for Grandfather William Commanda and the legacy he left behind. He continues to be a mentor for many people in the world.

As a world traveler and Canadian author, many people ask me about him and wonder why we have no place to come to in Canada to honor him. I am also asked why Ottawa is lagging behind in recognizing this great man and the land upon which is in question is recognized and honored as Algonquin unceded land.

In my travels, I also encounter places of deep spiritual significance for Indigenous people in other lands. For example, in Hawaii, there is a plaque and a Visitor's Center to acknowledge and honor the Hawaiian culture place, known as 'City of Refuge'. There are plaques placed in sensitive areas to tell people that it is Sacred Area and it is respected.

In searching the 'Vision Chaudiere website' - I was dismayed yet hopeful when coming onto the visioncaudiere.ca information on Canada's Capital Region:

'The Victoria and Chaudière Islands precinct is of extremely significant local and national historical importance. This archipelago at the ancient Chaudière Falls, Ottawa River, Canada's Capital Region, has served: as a sacred meeting place for Aboriginal Peoples; as the incubator of the resource-based industries which brought about the very development of the Region and of Canada; as a key node on the major transportation route into the interior of this vast land. Today, it is a very special cultural landscape: a natural wonder; a post-industrial brownfield; a collection of intimate, concealed spaces to be explored; a gallery of romantic ruins; a venue for a broad range of watery experiences; a spiritual oasis; a National Treasure.

Ironically, the vast majority of local residents and Canadians in general, know little or nothing about the heritage significance and shrouded beauty of this place. It has no "presence". Today, the district is derelict and largely cut-off from the public. Important heritage buildings, sites and artifacts are

unprotected and disintegrating. Its remarkable natural environment is choked. It is a sad reality for such a hauntingly beautiful, nationally significant site that exemplifies the "Cradle of Canadian Civilization", sitting on Confederation Boulevard in our Capital.

There is however, a blossoming of interest and opportunity for this natural and built heritage place in the shadow of Parliament's Peace Tower. This opportunity speaks to the next evolution of the site, in tune with the future as well as the past. It speaks to how the site, symbolically located at the "crossroads" of English, French and Aboriginal Canada, is filled with potential for cultural interpretation, and indeed for the next chapter in its captivating story.'

I am asking the City of Ottawa planning committee to halt any plans to allow zoning changes to develop on Chaudiere island, including Windmill's plan to bring further development.

What is so needed at this time is an acknowledgement that Victoria Island and Chaudiere Island is of National and International interest and be placed on the National Heritage and United Nations International Heritage Site for the protection for future generations.

In addition to my request in asking that this zoning be halted for any further development, I am asking on behalf of all Canadians to please help us in identifying Victoria Island as 'Sacred Space' to the Indigenous People', to help Canadians and visitors alike, know they are walking on Sacred Ground. Perhaps a Plaque from the 'National Canadian Commission stating 'Significance of Spiritual Culture Area for the Algonquin' - 'Please Respect the Area' could be commissioned. This plaque could be designed with a sculptured birch bark canoe and with Grandfather William Commanda's name on it. It would leave a clear mark to the great significance of the legacy this great and humble man of peace and goodwill left behind, not only for all indigenous people but to Canada and the international community and instill pride in Canadians that we are indeed acknowledging a vibrant past and present in First Nations relations.

It was Grandfather William Commanda's dream to see a 'Circle of Nations' come together for peace and re-conciliation in Canada and for this circle for Canada to be a beacon for the world.

Since the National Capitol Commission manages this land which lies on the ancestors of the Algonquin Nation and that Grandfather William Commanda himself stated 'it has always been unceded land', it would be an equally great legacy to honor the land for all Canadians as a place of peace and pride in the capitol.

Thank you for your deepest consideration,

Sincerely,

Delphine Nova

Algonquin Author  
Recipient of Governor General Award for Music



**ONTARIO  
RIVERS  
ALLIANCE**

379 Ronka Road  
Worthington, ON P0M3H0  
LindaH@OntarioRiversAlliance.ca  
OntarioRiversAlliance.ca

1 October 2014

Christopher Zwierzchowski  
Planning Committee Coordinator  
City of Ottawa  
110 Laurier Avenue West  
Ottawa, ON  
K1P 1J1  
BY E-MAIL: [Christopher.Zwierzchowski@Ottawa.ca](mailto:Christopher.Zwierzchowski@Ottawa.ca)

**Re: Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments – 3 and 4 Booth Street  
(Chaudière and Albert Island)**

Dear Sir:

Ontario Rivers Alliance (ORA) is a Not-for-Profit grassroots organization acting as a voice for the French River Delta Association, CPAWS-Ottawa Valley, Kiishik Community Association, Food & Water First, Whitewater Ontario, Vermilion River Stewardship, Friends of Grassy River, Mississippi Riverwatchers, French River Stewardship, as well as many other stewardships, associations, and private and First Nations citizens who have come together to protect, conserve and restore healthy river ecosystems all across Ontario.

ORA is opposed to the proposed amendment to the Lebreton Flats Central Area Secondary Plan and the amendment to Zoning By-law 2008-250 to change the zoning at 3 and 4 Booth Street from Parks and Open Space to a Downtown Mixed-Use zone, as set out in the City of Ottawa's Report Recommendations.

Victoria, Albert and Chaudière Islands are sacred lands of the Anishinaabe people, and of high spiritual significance. ORA is requesting that this area remain a natural park space where First Nations and the public can gather now and into the future. Chaudière Falls is located on unceded Algonquin land, and the Algonquins of Ontario must provide informed consent before any plans are considered.

ORA requests that City Council reject the recommendations of the Planning Committee, and maintain a natural park designation for these islands, so that First Nations and the public can visit and enjoy them far into the future.

Respectfully,

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:**  
Linda Heron  
Chair, Ontario Rivers Alliance  
(705) 866-1677

**From:** Sylvia Parker  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 01, 2014 9:16 AM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher  
**Cc:** Judith Matheson  
**Subject:** I wish to embrace what stands true for the Rezoning Chaudiere

Hi Christopher:

I have been attending the events held on Victoria Island ever since my daughter was learning to walk. Listening to the message that Grandfather William Commanda shared with us all. As you have received that full report from Romola V. Thumbadoo,

Coordinator, Circle of All NationsI – so I need not repeat the message.

I see this beautiful place for our children’s children to attend this sacred site. *Would it not be an honour to support the [www.ottawa2017.ca](http://www.ottawa2017.ca) Vision.*

This place will be for all Canadians, for more details on the message to support the vision of Freeing the Chaudiere Falls (petition along the right hand side)– [www.birthottawagatineau.com](http://www.birthottawagatineau.com)

**Please be sure to view this 10-min video of Douglas Cardinal speaking about the sacredness of this site (including all the islands at the Chaudiere Falls) and his thoughts on the proposed condominiums along with the indigenous vision for this sacred site that has been in the works for over 30 years:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UeFqbRBU5mk>

Cheers to honouring what’s right!

*Sylvia Parker*

**From:** Elena Love  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 01, 2014 4:02 PM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher  
**Subject:** Chaudiere Falls

Hello Mr. Zwierzchowski,

I would like to add my voice to the controversial issue of developing the areas of Victoria Island and Chaudière Falls. I was privileged to know Elder William Commanda closely over the last years of his life and I could not help but to be inspired by his vision of freeing the Chaudiere Falls and building an indigenous healing centre on Victoria Island.

It used to be a sacred land for the Native people for thousands of years and I believe that we, as new Canadians, could greatly benefit from continuing this legacy of Victoria Island being a place of meeting for all people in peace and reconciliation. Not to mention the environmental impact the development will have on an already polluted and industrialized area. I believe that the time has come when we should respect the sacredness of certain places and protect and preserve them, as well as the environment for the future generations.

Best regards,

Elena Pidtchenko-Love.



**Submission in support of full, unaltered Legacy Vision of Late Indigenous Elder  
William Commanda, including necessary re-zoning**

October 1, 2014

To whom it may concern:

This submission is in support of the Legacy Vision of Late Indigenous Elder William Commanda, regarding the return of Chaudière Island for the creation of the Asinabka EcoPark at the site of the Sacred Chaudière Falls, the traditional gathering place of the peoples of Turtle Island, where even Champlain was welcomed not so relatively long ago.

Since at least 1970, the late Elder, Grandfather and Dr. William Commanda advocated tirelessly for a Anishinaabe development vision for the Islands as a group. Over the years, his vision was endorsed by various levels of government; although they often cited the challenges associated with re-zoning, claiming over and over again to be attempting to overcome them. It came as some surprise when I read about the Mayor of Ottawa's intention to "work very closely with [Windmill] to ensure that we're rolling out the red carpet and not the red tape because this is a very complicated piece of land"

(<http://www.ottawasun.com/2014/04/23/ottawa-mayor-jim-watson-wants-red-carpet-not-red-tape-for-chaudiere-project>).

I endorse and echo the submissions made by Romola Thumbadoo, Douglas Cardinal and others who support the full Legacy Vision of Late Indigenous Elder William Commanda in all of their details. In addition, I take this opportunity to disagree with the proposed rezoning application made by the Windmill Development Group, since it is intended to facilitate this Group's residential and commercial development plans for the Sacred Chaudière Island, in particular – plans that are explicitly inconsistent with the Legacy Vision of Late Indigenous Elder William Commanda.

Aho,

Dr. Stephanie Pyne (Post-doctoral Research Fellow, University of Manitoba)

**From:** Nguyen, Hieu  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 01, 2014 3:57 PM  
**To:** 'Adriana Ross'  
**Cc:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher  
**Subject:** RE: my oposition for the Windmill's development of Chaudiere and Albert Island

Hi Adriana,

I have CC'd Chris Zwierzchowski, the Planning Committee clerk, so that your comments are provided as a written submission to the Planning Committee in opposition of the Booth St. Planning Report.

I have also added you to my notification list and you will be notified of Council's decision.

Sincerely,  
Hieu

Development Review, Urban Area

613-580-2424 ext.26936

Mail Code: 01-14

**From:** Adriana Ross  
**Sent:** October 01, 2014 11:41 AM  
**To:** Nguyen, Hieu  
**Subject:** my oposition for the Windmill's development of Chaudiere and Albert Island

Hi,

I am writing to express my oposition for the Windmill's development of Chaudiere and Albert Island. I don't support the development of the site.

Best Regards,

Adriana Ross, PhD student of Architecture

Attention: Mr. Hieu Nguyen, Planner  
Planning and Growth Management Department  
City of Ottawa

September 30, 2014

**Re: ACS2014-PAI-PGM-0181 Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments – 3 and 4 Booth Street – Chaudiere and Albert Islands**

Kwey, Kwey Planning Committee of Ottawa:

My Name is Daniel Sarazin. My concerns of your re-zoning of the Chaudiere(Kettle)Falls' islands are ones of justice for the entire Algonquin Nation, which includes both sides of the River of the Algonkins. The very recent and applicable Canadian Supreme Court ruling applies to any further decision made by your committee, because the entire Algonkin Nation hold full Collective Title to the Land proposed for rezoning.

Meegwetch

Daniel Lynden Sarazin

**From:** Nate Smelle  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 01, 2014 10:06 AM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher  
**Subject:** ATTN: Mr.Christopher Zwierzchowski,

October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014

Christopher Zwierzchowski  
City of Ottawa Planning Committee Coordinator  
110 Laurier Avenue West  
Ottawa, ON K1P 1J1

**ATTN: Mr.Christopher Zwierzchowski,**

Since time immemorial the Anishinaabe people have honoured the land around Chaudière Falls – including Victoria, Albert and Chaudière Islands – as sacred. In fact at one time this area known by Anishinaabe people as Asinabka – the place of glare Rock – was a place where they were able to harvest more than 1,000 eel in a single night at this location to help nourish the village. Samuel de Champlain recognized the value of these lands and waters site of well-known spiritual significance for First Nations people after witnessing a ceremonial offering of tobacco while paddling on the Kichissippi River in 1613.

I was shocked to learn that the City of Ottawa’s Planning Committee has recommendations for council to approve an amendment to the Lebreton Flats Central Area Secondary Plan to allow for a mixed-use community at 3 and 4 Booth Street (Chaudière and Albert Islands); and an amendment to Zoning By-law 2008-250 to change the zoning at 3 and 4 Booth Street from Parks and Open Space to a Downtown Mixed-Use zone to allow for a mixed-use development and Major Leisure Facility zone on new park lands.

**To approve these recommendations is to disrespect the rights of all First Nations throughout North America.** Please reconsider your recommendation to re-zone these culturally and naturally rich sacred lands.

Thank you for your time.

Chi-Megwich!

**Nathan Smelle**

**From:** Leah Snyder  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 01, 2014 8:54 AM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher; Nguyen, Hieu  
**Subject:** RE: Registering to speak at tomorrow's City of Ottawa Planning Meeting

Good Morning,

I am interested in presenting my perspective at the planning meeting. I was forwarded the info on Facebook via Jaime Koebel.

I am in support of the William Commanda's vision for Chaudière Falls and want to support the vision in any way I can.

Thank you,  
Leah Snyder

A Presentation by: Maureen Stark

to the Planning Committee of the City of Ottawa Thursday October 2 2014 ·  
Champlain Room, City Hall 110 Laurier Ave. West.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you for this opportunity to speak with you. I thank you above all else, for the honour you bestow upon me not through your obligation to give me this time, but rather through your willingness to listen to what I am saying, and your willingness to consider what I am saying.

After having studied the Report of September 22, 2014 submitted by Nancy Schepers, Deputy City Manager Planning and Infrastructure I have 3 points to draw to your attention.

Point 1. In paragraph 3 sentence 2 of the executive summary we see the phrase "Currently there is no land use designation or specific policies for these lands..." This statement is clearly impactful and unfortunately also illogical. These lands being changed from their current designation, is of course the very purpose of this meeting. If there was no land use designation or specific policy for these lands, this meeting would not be necessary. Changing their current designated use, and designating a change in specific policy is the legal reason for this meeting.

Point 2. Continuing, within the same paragraph 3 ; in sentence 5 we find: " The purpose of the amendment is to update the policies for the islands to today's context and realize the current owner's transformation plan that was developed through an extensive consultation process involving the Cities of Gatineau and Ottawa, the NCC and the general public".

I contend that there has not been extensive consultation with the public and therefore in no way can the current context be accurately reflected in this report.

There have, I grant you been 2 advertised and attended information sessions, however under no interpretive logic could those sessions be called consultation sessions. Again, logic must apply. Out of the two meetings sited in the report with 200 at one and 900 at another, only 37 comments were received. This must mean that of the total 1100 people attending these information sessions, either 1063 people had nothing to say good or bad, , or a clearly and easily accessible

process was not conducted during those events or provided to the attendees for engagement in the required and claimed consultation process.

Point 3. In paragraph 5 we find: "The proposal promotes an environmentally sustainable development incorporating heritage preservation, public access to natural features/amenities..." Addressing this.:There is no question among any of us that these lands are of great significance to the descendants of the originating Indigenous people. These lands have for more than 1000 years been the site of peacebuilding and sacred ceremony by the Anishnabee . To the Anishnabee, of whom I am one, this area now commonly known as Gatineau/Ottawa, and these Kettle Islands which are being referred to as Chaudiere and Albert Islands and the Chaudiere Falls carry the same significance to me an Anishnabee as Jerusalem and the Temple Wall carry to the Jewish people. The late Algonquin Chief and leader of all Anishnabee Grandfather William Commanda shared with Douglas Cardinal the vision of the 8<sup>th</sup> fire prophesy, and entrusted him with carrying it out with respect to these lands. This is the site historically used to uplift and bring all nations together. It is my understanding that Douglas Cardinal's plans for the restoration of the site was done in collaboration, entrusted and approved by Grandfather William Commanda. There is no other way to respectfully plan, develop policy or enact authority for the stewardship of this Internationally sacred site, other than to work with the Douglas Cardinal plans as the foundation. In conclusion, I hope that this meeting is the beginning of real consultation and real discernment of the best way to Restore Inter-National Peace and fully functioning Respectful Relations with the descendants our originating hosts on this sacred land.

I thank you for your time, and most importantly your willingness to hold the public responsibility to lead us as we all attempt to move forward for the highest good for all people unto the next 7 generations..

**From:** christiane st-laurent  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 30, 2014 5:01 PM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher  
**Subject:** October 2nd meeting

Kwe (Hello),

I oppose the rezoning of Chaudiere and Albert islands for mixed use development. I cannot attend the meeting on Thu Oct 2 at 9:30am to speak but this is my official written opposition.

All the islands (Albert, Chaudiere, Wright and Victoria) are to be declared an aboriginal sacred site because they ARE. All the islands are of historical and cultural/spiritual significance and should be returned as closely as possible to their natural state for all people, aboriginal and non aboriginal, to enjoy.

Before the river was tamed and the falls retained, the memory of our elders says that the falls area was like a huge sacred pipe bowl that emerge of water and the mist rising up from the falls were like the smoke from a sacred pipe. If the sacred pipe means nothing to you; respect the fact that it is of important significance for ALL aboriginals and metis people all over North America.

In addition, the late elder Wiliam Commanda, spiritual leader of the Algonquin Asinabka peoples of North America, was promised by former Chairs of the National Capital Commission Jean Pigott and Marcel Beaudry that this sacred unceded land of the Algonquin Asinabka Peoples, would be honoured by having an "**Indigenous Peace Ecology Centre**" built on Asinabka Island. Did you know that in November 2010 the City of Ottawa endorsed this project? Why isn't the city respecting her 2010 words by building the peace ecology center promised instead of hotels and condos?

Have you been on this islands? There is geese and ducks, fox, ravens, hawks and many more. These islands are the last refuge for them in this city. You have a moral right not to kill their home to build yours and replace trees with bricks.

This city do not need an additional hotel, more condos, another restaurant or an extra bike route. What it needs is to respect the words promised to the late William Commanda and a sacred peace place for all to reconnect with each other and with nature. No man made piece of brick can provide that.

Also, drinking establishments shouldn't exist on sacred lands.

Thank you

Christiane "Wabi Mahigan Ikwe" ST-Laurent

Sent from my iPhone



**From:**  
**Sent:** Monday, September 29, 2014 11:35 PM  
**To:** Nguyen, Hieu  
**Cc:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher  
**Subject:** Asinabka/Victoria/Chaudière Islands/zoning plans

**Attention: Mr. Hieu Nguyen, Planner  
Planning and Growth Management Department  
City of Ottawa**

**September 30, 2014**

**Re: ACS2014-PAI-PGM-0181 Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments – 3 and 4  
Booth Street – Chaudiere and Albert Islands**

As a member of The Circle of All Nations, I am writing to register my support for the Vision of the Late Algonquin Elder, Dr. William Commanda, OC, for Asinabka as a sacred site of the Anishinabeg.

I am, therefore, informing you of my opposition to the proposed zoning changes and development plans by Domtar and/or other private interests for these islands. It is my understanding that a lease is not a deed to the property. Besides this is unceded Algonquin territory, as I understand it.

Consequently, I also wish to be notified of the outcomes of the public meeting and to be added as party to the hearing of any appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board.

Please consider this to be my written submission to the City of Ottawa, as extracted from the City of Ottawa Documentation (see below).

*1. I NOTE the following message extracted from the City of Ottawa Documentation*

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at the public meeting or make written submissions to the City of Ottawa before the proposed official plan amendment is adopted or the zoning by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Council of the City of Ottawa to the Ontario Municipal Board.

The City of Ottawa Planning Committee Meets this Thursday, October 2, 2014 at 9:30 am in the Champlain Room, City Hall, 110 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa. Please inform Christopher Zwierzchowski at 613-580-2424, extension 21359 of your interest to speak by 4.30 pm October 1; submit written responses by October 1 to [Christopher.Zwierzchowski@ottawa.ca](mailto:Christopher.Zwierzchowski@ottawa.ca) or [hieu.nguyen@ottawa.ca](mailto:hieu.nguyen@ottawa.ca)

*I plan to be there.*

**From City of Ottawa Documentation: That Planning Committee recommend Council approve:**

**An amendment to the Lebreton Flats Central Area Secondary Plan to allow for a mixed-use community at 3 and 4 Booth Street (Chaudière and Albert Islands), as shown on Document 1 and detailed in Document 5; and**

**An amendment to Zoning By-law 2008-250 to change the zoning at 3 and 4 Booth Street from Parks and Open Space to a Downtown Mixed-Use zone to allow for a mixed-use development and Major Leisure Facility zone on new park lands, as shown in Document 1, detailed in Document 6, and set out in Documents 7 and 8.**

*NOTE – the lack of clarity in the phrase below “under private ownership or use” – Domtar Official (F. Jette) stated in 2007 that Domtar (and previous corporate interests) held a lease in perpetuity, renewable every 20 years, at the leasing cost of \$100 a year, since the 1800s at the Chaudiere Island (for additional information on lack of clarity on the land ownership, see the attached Circle of All Nations report of June 21, 2014); note further in the unceded, unsurrendered, unconquered Algonquin territory, crown lands/public lands were leased for projects of public good in the development of the country; with the shutting down of the Domtar Pulp Mill, that use of the old leasing parameters ceased and the lands are now being recommended for privatization.*

*It is widely known and acknowledged that Elder William Commanda awakened the National Capital Region and public consciousness to the fact that this is Algonquin territory; his Legacy Vision for the Sacred Chaudiere Site was developed formally with thousands of Indigenous and non-Indigenous partners, endorsed by Algonquin leadership from both the Ontario and Quebec Communities.*

**Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require further information or clarification.**

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Sincerely,

Raymond Sunstrum

**From:** Nguyen, Hieu  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 01, 2014 3:59 PM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher  
**Subject:** FW: Asinabka/Victoria/Chaudière Islands/zoning plans

Can you add this to Raymond's written submission?

Hieu

Development Review, Urban Area

613-580-2424 ext.26936

Mail Code: 01-14

**From:**  
**Sent:** October 01, 2014 12:03 PM  
**To:** Nguyen, Hieu;  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Re: Asinabka/Victoria/Chaudière Islands/zoning plans

Dear Nguyen, Hieu:

Please note that I wish to speak to register my strongest objections to the City of Ottawa's plans concerning the rezoning to permit profit-based plans for an Island that does not belong to either the private developers involved or the City of Ottawa for that matter. Neither does it belong to the province. As it has been said before this land is part of the Algonquin Anishinabeg territory, unceded land. Claimed repeatedly on behalf of the Algonquin Anishinabeg by the late Algonquin Anishinabeg Elder William Commanda.

It has, in fact, been recognized as a sacred site (Asinabka) by the Anishinabeg, for thousands of years. I was there when we met with Domtar representative several years ago. This fact, which they ignored then just as the City of Ottawa appears ready to officially ignore once again, was made to quite clear on this occasion.

And, this fact has been stated by Elder William Commanda in sacred ceremony and on many other public occasions. The Anishinabeg claim needs to be dealt with before any developer or City official goes ahead with development plans, in colonial fashion once again ignoring indigenous claims to unceded ancestral territory.

Perhaps the City of Ottawa could ver seriously re-think their unjustified & unethical conduct or back-room plans for supporting private interests over Canada's obligations to respect Indigenous Rights and Land Claims to this sacred site, Asinabka, at the present time or any other time. Excluding Aboriginal Peoples from the process is colonial=racist behaviour. And, the City should know that very well.

Please think again before you act.

Sincerely,

Raymond Sunstrum

Jason Surkan

October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014

Attention: Mr. Hieu Nguyen, Planner  
Planning and Growth Management Department  
City of Ottawa

Dear Mr. Hieu Nguyen,

I am not in favor of the rezoning application: Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments – 3 and 4 Booth Street – Chaudiere and Albert Islands. As an active citizen and taxpayer of Ottawa, I feel that this application is not in my best interest, or for that matter the public's best interest. I have been actively following Windmill's proposed development for the Islands and am certain that their proposal is not in the public's best interest.

This land is unceded, unsurrendered Algonquin territory and is some of the Anishinaabe Nations most sacred land. For thousands of years this land was used as a Sacred Place until the industrialization of the area denied public access. I have thoroughly reviewed Windmill's proposition for the islands and attended open houses. I have concluded that they have no intention to include the Anishinaabe Nation in the development. They are proposing an act of colonialism right in the heart of the nations capital. We should be working towards reconciliation, not colonialism as a Nation. There is very minimal recognition towards the lands sacredness and importance to the Anishinaabe peoples in the proposed plan. Grandfather William Commanda's vision for the area is inclusive, not exclusive.

Grandfathers vision is far larger than that for only his people, the Algonquins. He envisions the area to be a global Indigenous center that brings all peoples from every race, the yellow peoples, the red peoples, the black peoples and the white peoples into harmony all working towards the healing of Mother Earth. William wants the Global Indigenous and Non-Indigenous people to peacefully co-exist here and form a mutual understanding of our history and move forward together into a brighter future for our children and there children forever after.

I ask that you seriously consider the implications of this zoning application, and I trust that the City of Ottawa will make the right decision. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jason Surkan

**From:** THOMEusM TegtMeyer  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 30, 2014 2:49 AM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher; Nguyen, Hieu  
**Cc:** Watson, Jim (Mayor/Maire);  
**Subject:** Free the Falls...Ottawa city Planning Committee Thursday, Oct. 2  
 Re: Development of Chaudière and Albert Islands that will impact the sacred land of the Algonquin/Asinabka Peoples

Hello,

Unfortunately I am at Kingston and not able to attend in person at the upcoming meeting. Please record my comments and include me on notices for announcements and any appeals.

A promise is a promise...[Marcel Beaudry, Jean Chretien Government]

The unceded territory of the Falls and Victoria Island deserve an aboriginal presence in the form of a long promised Indigenous Ecology Centre/National Healing Centre/A Circle of All Nations to bring healing to European-Aboriginal relations and share the world's traditional aboriginal and western natural medicines.

My understanding is that *there has not been prior and informed consent* by local aboriginal groups and therefore the sale and development of the land in question would be in contravention of British and United Nations laws, charters, and resolutions re: aboriginal rights...

All levels of government including the City of Ottawa and City of Gatineau must uphold the law including the 1763 proclamation. Announcements in this regard would be fitting prior to Ottawa's 150th birthday in 2017.

**THōMAS MARTIN TEGTMEYER, Hons. B.A., TAC**

**From:** THOMEusM TegTmeyer  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 01, 2014 1:32 PM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher; Nguyen, Hieu  
**Cc:** Watson, Jim (Mayor/Maire);  
**Subject:** Re: Free the Falls...Ottawa city Planning Committee Thursday, Oct. 2 Re: Development of Chaudière and Albert Islands that will impact the sacred land of the Algonquin/Asinabka Peoples  
**Importance:** High

Dear Sirs,

To be more specific further to my earlier email, my concerns also relate specifically to Chaudière Island, Albert Islands and environs. I quote from the attached letter and endorse the views of William Commanda:

"Consistent with his Wampum Belt Indigenous heritage, William Commanda envisioned a place of reconciliation of First Peoples, the founding nations, (English and French), and all others in the heart of the national capital region and he worked hard to enlist people of diverse backgrounds in this plan. In addition to the public space of a "central park" at Chaudiere Island, and a restored Chaudiere Falls, (once considered second in magnificence only to the Niagara Falls), he projected a complementary Indigenous Centre/Hotel and Conference Centre for the Sacred Site of *time immemorial*: public and not privatized space. His vision is one of global importance and potential; further, it is not one without the financial potential of the *Golden Goose*, with benefits to flow to all."

I ask the committee to do a good job to seek prior, informed and written consent from the holders of the unceded Algonquin territory...and to address each and every concern contained in the appended documents before making a final decision. Please confirm receipt of these emails with reply to all. Thank you.

Do a good job...

**From:** mariefrance toffin  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 01, 2014 8:28 AM  
**To:** Zwierzchowski, Christopher  
**Subject:** re-zoning of Chaudiere island

Good day !

I would like to express my deep concerns about zoning changes concerning the development of Chaudière and Albert Islands by developers planing to build more than 1000 residential units, 4,800 square meters for retail, 17,000 meters for office and an hotel.

Is making money the first priority of the city of Ottawa ?

In giving priority to developers over First Nations, a few people will become richer and the majority of us will be losers :

- the earth is on the verge of collapsing for the greed of a few individuals. Is the city of Ottawa going to help solve this world problem ?
- First Nations are the top expert in dealing with nature. Then let them take care of the Chaudière water and Albert islands !
- It was always assumed that the NCC would be acquiring the islands and that they would be developed under the direction of First Nations people.

Let us hope the city of Ottawa will put new priorities on its agenda such as ecology, clean waters, beautiful wild nature, respect for First Nation culture.

The new generations deserves a good place to live in based on the unity of the three founding nations. (First Nations, English and French people)

Where there is no vision, the people perish ! Please act according to a vision that will benefit all !

mariefrance toffin