# SEVEN GRANDFATHER TEACHINGS

OF THE OJIBWE PEOPLE



### WISDOM NIBWAAKAAWIN Represented by the beaver

TO CHERISH KNOWLEDGE IS TO KNOW WISDOM

RESPECT YOUR OWN LIMITATIONS AND THOSE OF ALL OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS

RECOGNIZE YOUR DIFFERENCES AND THOSE OF OTHERS IN A KIND, RESPECTFUL WAY

#### LOVE ZAAGI'DIWIN

Represented by the eagle

TO KNOW LOVE IS TO KNOW PEACE

**UNCONDITIONAL** 

WHEN PEOPLE ARE WEAK THEY NEED LOVE MOST

**LOVE IS MUTUAL - SHARED** 

### RESPECT MINAADENDAMOWIN

Represented by the buffalo

TO HONOR ALL CREATION IS TO HAVE RESPECT

LIVE HONORABLY IN TEACHINGS AND IN YOUR ACTIONS TOWARDS ALL THINGS

YOU MUST GIVE RESPECT IF YOU WISH TO BE RESPECTED

## BRAVERY *AAKODE'EWIN*Represented by the bear

BRAVERY IS TO FACE LIFE WITH INTEGRITY

DEFEND WHAT YOU BELIEVE IN

MAKE POSITIVE CHOICES AND HAVE CONVICTION IN YOUR DECISIONS

TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT EVEN WHEN THE CONSEQUENCES ARE UNPLEASANT

## HONESTY *GWAYAKWAADIZIWIN*Represented by the raven or sabe

RECOGNIZE AND ACCEPT WHO YOU ARE

ALWAYS BE HONEST IN WORD AND ACTION

BE HONEST FIRST WITH YOURSELF AND YOU WILL MORE EASILY BE ABLE TO BE HONEST WITH OTHERS

TO WALK THROUGH LIFE WITH INTEGRITY IS TO KNOW HONESTY

#### HUMILITY DABAADENDIZIWIN

Represented by the wolf

IT IS TO KNOW YOURSELF AS A SACRED PART OF CREATION

YOU ARE EQUAL TO OTHERS BUT YOU ARE NOT BETTER

DO NOT BECOME ARROGANT AND SELF-IMPORTANT

### TRUTH DEBWEWIN

Represented by the turtle

BE TRUE TO YOURSELF AND ALL OTHER THINGS

SHOW HONOR AND SINCERITY IN ALL THAT YOU SAY AND DO

DO NOT DECEIVE YOURSELF OR OTHERS

#### The End