Waasa Inaabidaa - We Look In All Directions

Gakina Awiiya - We Are All Related

Environment

“The Native people have a relationship with the Creator and that is the relationship with the environment.”
--Bucko Teeple, Bay Mills Ojibwe

Duluth, MN: In this episode of Waasa Inaabidaa…We Look In All Directions, discover the intimate relationship that the Anishinabe/Ojibwe people of the Great Lakes Region have with the environment--the natural world. Gakina Awiiya - We Are All Related explores the belief that all people are connected and interdependent with all life on the planet. This co-existence is based on respect, sharing, humility, and responsibility--the essential values of the Ojibwe worldview. This episode of Wassa Inaabidaa - We Look In All Directions airs (local air time/station information).

In Gakina Awiiya - We Are All Related, eloquent descriptions of this relationship are expressed by compelling testimonials of Anishinaabe/Ojibwe, such as Dr. Rick St. Germaine of Lac Courte Oreilles: "The earth is our mother and how can you own your mother?" Ownership of land as private property was a foreign concept to the Ojibwe and other indigenous nations throughout the country.

Producer Lorraine Norrgard, and writer James Fortier present scenes that reveal the story of how the Ojibwe survived and prospered in the Great Lakes region based on a seasonal round of subsistence activities in a balanced relationship prior to contact with Europeans. Lives of the
Ojibwe were dramatically altered when this delicate balance clashed with the Euro-American philosophies of resource exploitation, treaties, land ownership, and permanent reservations.

The viewer then witnesses the affirmation of treaty rights in the 21st century, the continued struggles for protection of the environment, contemporary natural resource management, and the renewed understanding that *We Are All Related*.

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