

The Chanie Wenjack School mourns the passing of Bawdwaywidun, Eddie Benton-Benai.

Today, the Wenjack School mourns the passing of a great knowledge keeper and spiritual leader, Dr. Eddie Benton-Banai, Bawdwaywidun from Lac Court Orielles Band of Ojibways in Wisconsin and a relative from the Fish Clan.

Eddie was a leader advancing Anishinaabe-controlled education and cultural-based education based on Anishinaabe philosophy. As the academic and spiritual advisor for Shingwauk Education Trust, Eddie led the development of the historic Covenant Agreement between Shingwauk and Algoma University and worked to obtain accreditation from the World Indigenous Nations on Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC).

*The Mishomis Book, The Voice of the Ojibway*, prepared by Eddie in 1988 is considered a modern Indigenous classic text used by many educational institutions to convey Anishinaabe philosophy, history and culture.

We offer our prayers and condolences to the Benton-Benai family and to his traditional family in the Three Fires Lodge on this immense loss of a great leader, protector and warrior. May his spirit travel well. And may he be greeted with open hearts by all those who preceded him in the spirit world.