



FOR IMMEDIATE RELRELEASE

### **Elder and Dr. Albert Marshall Recognized with National Mental Health Award**

**Ottawa (May 13, 2021)** - CCPA is proud to announce that Mi'kmaw Elder and Dr. Albert Marshall has been selected as the sixth recipient of CCPA's Professional Champion Award. Dr Marshall will receive his award during the opening ceremonies of CCPA's annual conference on May 14.

This Award honours and promotes the exceptional work of individuals in Canada who have played exemplary roles in enhancing the lives of others through championing the role of counselling and psychotherapy in its many forms in enhancing the mental health and well-being of people. Past recipients include Senator Murray Sinclair, Lieutenant-General (retired) Romeo Dallaire, Mary Walsh, Grand Chief Sheila North, and Barbara MacCallum.

Dr. Marshall is an internationally respected and deeply loved Elder of the Mi'kmaw nation. He is from the Moose Clan and lives in the community of Eskasoni in Unama'ki (Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia). Elder Albert has made vast contributions to our profession through the teachings of Etuaptmumk, a Mi'kmaw word/phrase for Two-Eyed Seeing.

Etuaptmumk is a guiding principle and an action-oriented invitation to recognize the strengths that exist within diverse cultural knowledges, and in this particular context, Indigenous knowledges. Etuaptmumk encourages us to join together on a co-learning journey, rather than one knowledge system dominating over another, as has often been the case with eurocentric knowledge systems. Etuaptmumk has been used as a research method, theory, and guiding principle in counsellor education and practice.

"Albert has shared his cultural knowledges so willingly," said Dr. Jenny Rowett, CCPA President 2019-2021. "He has helped us to understand how the seven sacred teachings can be interwoven into our therapeutic work, and he continues to help us understand Indigenous approaches for health and healing, and the gaps that currently exist within our health care system. We are humbled by his contributions to our Association."

Dr. Albert contributed to CCPA's newly-revised Code of Ethics (CCPA, 2020), both within the *Wise Practices Lens* of ethical decision making processes section, and as part of the Wabanaki working group/circle that contributed toward the new *Indigenous Peoples, Communities and Contexts* section.

Wela'lin Albert for your vast contributions to our profession!

CCPA is committed to ensuring equitable access to counsellors and psychotherapists for Indigenous People as a step toward reconciliation. A number of our members work with First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples in community settings and urban centres. To learn more or find a counsellor near you, and search by specializations that include indigenous counsellors and specialties, please visit the CCPA directory of Canadian Certified Counsellors across Canada at <https://www.ccpa-accp.ca/>.



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*[The Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association \(CCPA\)](#) is a national bilingual association providing professional counsellors and psychotherapists with access to exclusive educational programs, certification, professional development and direct contact with professional peers and specialty groups. CCPA promotes the profession and its contribution to the mental health and well-being of all Canadians.*

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