

Elder Teachings – The Giveaway Teaching

Speaker: Elder Blu Waters

When we speak about the Giveaway Teaching, we do not mean to get rid of something we no longer want or need. Rather it means to give away to others that which we truly value, and something that we hope will help and assist others. This could be something in the way of knowledge, or a practical object of some kind, or sacred medicine. We can also talk about our relationships with each other as a giveaway. I am giving to you my knowledge, my time, my care, and my attention as a giveaway even though it is not something tangible that you can see and hold. In colonial society we are always throwing away things we no longer want or need. In an Indigenous perspective, we give away the things that we want, so that we are kept humble. We give away our knowledge, our stories, our teachings, because they are not just ours to hold. They are ours to share so we can form good allyship and good relationship and to be of one mind.