

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Most viral video sparks debate

Two friends from Uganda see KONY film differently

EDMONTON, AB, April 19, 2012 – Can people differ on questions of money, politics or religion and remain friends? Two men from Uganda will debate the implications of the most viral video of all time at the downtown library on Friday night.

Walter Ojok-Acii, an international criminal lawyer, and Francis Akena Adyanga, a PhD student at the University of Toronto, were born and raised in Uganda. They are best friends but have very different viewpoints on the Kony video. The [Edmonton Public Library](#) and [Micah Challenge Canada](#) will present **KONY 2012: A Conversation Between Two Friends** at the Stanley A. Milner Library Theatre on Friday, April 20 from 7 to 8:30 pm, followed by questions from the audience.

Viewed by over 100,000 million people around the world, the KONY 2012 video is designed to raise awareness about Joseph Kony, the leader of the Lord's Resistance Army in Uganda, a guerrilla group best known for kidnapping children and turning them into an army of brutal, albeit unwilling, killers. The KONY 2012 video highlights his immoral actions with the goal to have him arrested by December 2012 – an effort that has been both hailed and vilified.

“The fact that the KONY video has gone viral shows the concern of people around the world for peace and freedom. That includes the freedom to read, think, speak, view and share diverse opinions,” said Richard Thornley, chair of the adult programming team with the Edmonton Public Library (EPL). “For over a century EPL has been a champion for the free sharing of ideas and conversations. Whether you agree or disagree with the KONY 2012 video, dissent and debate are signs of a healthy democracy.”

“By creating awareness of poverty and the harsh reality of life in parts of Africa, we hope to inspire people to join the conversation and get involved,” said Liz John-West of the Micah Challenge, a social justice network of Christian churches. “Our intent is to spark debate and give people hope that together we can alleviate poverty and injustice.”

The 30-minute viral KONY video and the second 20-minute video issued by Invisible Children in April responding to critics of the first film can be viewed on the Edmonton Public Library's [website](#).

About the Edmonton Public Library:

The Edmonton Public Library (EPL) carries everything you care about. We are Edmonton's largest lender of all manner of information and entertainment. Our professionally trained staff take you beyond Google with the knowledge, discernment and desire to help you navigate a universe of information. Every year, we host over 14 million in-branch and online visits across our 17 branches and website. We deliver our incredible content to you everywhere - in the library, at home or on your handheld device. Unmatched access and unrivalled value - that is today's EPL. Spread the words. www.epl.ca.

About Micah Challenge:

Micah Challenge was created by the Micah Network and the World Evangelical Alliance in response to a groundswell among evangelical Christian churches wanting to contribute at all levels to the alleviation of poverty and to greater justice for poor communities. We are committed to pursuing justice, mercy and humility by inspiring and equipping Christians for advocacy and action in response to global poverty. The Micah Network is made up of 260 Christian-based community development agencies. Micah Challenge is working globally to challenge international leaders to achieve the [Millennium Development Goals](#) to halve extreme poverty by 2015. <http://micahchallenge.ca>

Micah Challenge →

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