



**For Immediate Release
June 20, 2012**

**Award Winning Water Brothers Coming to Aquafest
*5th Annual Aquafest to be held August 9, 10, & 11, 2013***

They're young, they're hot, and they are travelling the globe exploring the most important water stories of our time. Hosts Tyler and Alex Mifflin of the popular TVO series, "The Water Brothers", will launch Aquafest 2013, this summer. The fifth annual festival kicks off at the Grand Bend Legion on Friday, August 9th and runs through Sunday, August 11th, with activities for all ages.

"The Water Brothers have just been recognized by the BBC's Earth Panda Awards. They are investigating some of the world's biggest water challenges, and they are communicating the problems and solutions in a fun, engaging and exciting way," says Aquafest Co-chair Marissa Vaughan. "They're a perfect fit for Aquafest."

"Water is more valuable than oil or gold but it is rarely given its true value." That's how the Water Brothers summarize the reason for their work.

The Water Brothers will be presenting an interactive and fun eco-evening, including the premier of one of next season's episodes focused on algae in water – a problem that has shown up in recent years along the Lake Huron shoreline.

The recent low water levels in the Great Lakes has focused much attention on the reality that water, as abundant as it is in this part of world, is a dwindling natural resource. "We can't live three days without water. It is an essential resource that needs protection from over-use and pollution," adds Aquafest Co-Chair Janette Baillie. "The goal of Aquafest is to engage, educate and empower people to do just that – protect and preserve water. It's a matter of survival."

Other activities this year include the return of the Great Lakes Chowder Competition, in which Ontario chefs are invited to vie for the coveted Golden Ladle award by creating a

chowder using only the humane and sustainably caught Purdy's fish. Purdy's is proud to present Chef Steve Stallard of BLiS Fine Foods as the judge for the 4th Annual Great Lakes Chowder Competition. Chef Stallard hails from Grand Rapids, Michigan and is the mastermind behind the world famous BLiS Bourbon Barrel Aged Maple Syrup, which has been featured on The Martha Stewart Show. Many of Chef Stallard's gourmet food products have received rave reviews from some of America's top chefs and have been featured in "O", "Food & Wine", "Chocolatier" & "Saveur" magazines.

Also this year, the renowned documentary Chasing Ice will be featured at the Outdoor theatre at the Pinery Provincial Park, along with hikes and canoe rides. The Student Art Competition entries will be on display at the YMCA Youth Centre. Other children's activities will be held on the Saturday afternoon at the YMCA Youth Centre. The Main Beach will feature music, storytelling, exhibits and children's learning activities on the Saturday morning. The Photo Contest and Show with the theme of Living on the Great Lakes will be featured at the Grand Bend Art Centre on River Road. Art exhibits will be open all weekend on River Road. Hikes with the Lambton Shores Natural Trails Group will take place in Port Franks. Details will be updated at www.granbendaquafest.ca

Aquafest became a Lambton Shores Committee of Council this year. Organizers wish to thank supporters and funders so far: The Municipality of Lambton Shores, The Grand Bend Community Foundation, Grand Bend Rotary, TD Friends of the Environment, Lambton Creative County, Hay Communications, Ausable Cthe,