

Theresa Schumilas

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Theresa is the owner and operator of Garden Party - an organic farm and consultancy near Waterloo, Ontario (www.gardenparty.ca). Garden Party is at the forefront of a series of alternative food ventures that promise to build stronger and more inter-dependent communities using food as the medium. Through this unique integrated food hub, Theresa operates a year round certified organic Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farm, buying club and processing kitchen. She also provides consulting and advisory services to public and private sector partners interested in developing healthier food systems.

Theresa holds a BAsC in human nutrition from the University of Guelph, a MSc in Health Studies from the University of Waterloo and is currently completing her PhD at the University of Waterloo in local food systems. She has 25 years experience with local government directing community based health and policy research and planning, and 15 years organic farming experience. She consults and teaches widely on issues related to bioregional food systems and community economic development. Her clients include NGOs, government departments and small farms seeking to maximize profitability through alternative marketing and retail approaches.