

Theresa Schumilas is the owner and operator of Garden Party - a certified organic produce farm just outside of Waterloo Ontario (www.gardenparty.ca). Garden Party offers a year round food box program, organic flowers for sustainable weddings, an organic plant nursery focusing on edible landscaping, an on-farm processing kitchen with workshops on food skills and a program of weekly local and organic dinners served in the garden. Theresa holds a BAsC in human nutrition from the University of Guelph and a MSc in Health Studies from the University of Waterloo. She has 25 years experience with local government directing community based health and policy research and planning. She consults and teaches widely on issues related to bioregional food systems and community economic development. Theresa is a strong advocate of small and medium scale agriculture. She understands small sized firms to be the key economic drivers of the organic sector. She is currently developing a new food brokerage venture to help bring local organic products from this sector to higher end markets.