

## ACORN 2018 Online CSA Conference Speakers:

Patricia Bishop - [Taproot Farms](#)

Patricia Bishop is an eighth - generation Annapolis Valley farmer from Port Williams, Nova Scotia and the co-founder of Taproot Farms with her husband, Josh Oulton, and their three children. Patricia is passionate about promoting locally grown foods and preserving agricultural lands and she has built awareness around some of the most important issues affecting the future of farming: food security, land use, and the viability of local farms. In 2010, she and Josh were recognized as Atlantic Canada's Outstanding Young Farmers. TapRoot Farms is a certified organic and transition-to-organic farm in Port Williams, Nova Scotia with one of the largest Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) programs in Canada, with over 500 members.



Jen Campbell - [Jen and Derek's Organic Farm](#)

Jennifer grew up outside of Summerside, PEI on a conventional potato farm and went to Sir Sandford Fleming College in Ontario after graduating high school and studied eco-system management. She apprenticed on an organic CSA farm near Guelph for a year after graduating and returned to PEI to start growing vegetables small scale behind her grandparents house. Derek and Jen purchased their first farm in Brookvale in 2006 and started growing vegetables while both working full time in Summerside. Jen left her job at ADL in 2008 to pursue farming full time selling at the Summerside and Charlottetown Farmers market and starting their first CSA with ten members. Ben & Jake were born in 2009 which added a whole new dimension to their already busy lives. In 2011 they sold their beloved Brookvale farm and moved to Wilmot Valley to be closer to family and Derek's job.



Andre Cantelmo - [Heron Pond Farm](#)

Elizabeth Henderson - [The Prying Mantis Blog](#)

Elizabeth Henderson farmed at Peacework Farm in Wayne County, New York, producing organically grown vegetables for the fresh market for over 30 years. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York (NOFA-NY), co-chairs the Policy Committee, and represents the NOFA Interstate Council on the Board of the Agricultural Justice Project. She serves as Honorary President of Urgenci, the International CSA Network. For 20 years, from 1993 – 2013, she chaired the Agricultural Development Board in Wayne County and took an active role in creating the Farming and Farmland Protection Plan for the county. In 2001, the organic industry honored her with one of the first “Spirit of Organic awards, in 2007, Abundance Co-op honored her with the “Cooperating for Communities” award and in 2009 NOFA-NY honored her with a Lifetime Achievement Award and then a Golden Carrot in 2013. In 2014 Eco-Farm presented her with their “Advocate of Social Justice Award, the Justie.” Her



writings on organic agriculture appear in *The Natural Farmer* and other publications, and she is the lead author of *Sharing the Harvest: A Citizen’s Guide to Community Supported Agriculture* (Chelsea Green, 2007), with a Spanish language e-book edition in 2017. She also wrote *A Food Book for a Sustainable Harvest* for the members of Peacework Organic Community Supported Agriculture (aka GVOCSA) which had its twenty ninth year in 2017.

Simon Huntley - [Small Farm Central](#)

Simon grew up on a small farm in the hills of southwestern Pennsylvania before pursuing a degree in Information Sciences and Technology at Penn State University. Soon after college, Simon helped a long-time western Colorado fruit farmer expand his operation to include vegetable production and a CSA program. The project grew to serve five area farmers markets and a 130-member CSA.



During his tenure at the farm, Simon took advantage of his education in information technology to develop a highly interactive website for the CSA. In retrospect, this website was a prototype for what Small Farm Central would eventually become. After leaving the farm in the Fall of 2006, Simon started Small Farm Central with a core group of 10 farmers from across the country. In four years, Small Farm Central has grown to serve more than 1000 farmers (as of October 2015) across the U.S. and Canada.

Outside of Small Farm Central, Simon is kept active by his two sons, Eliot (age 5) and Theo (age 2). He enjoys food experimentation projects like beer making, fermenting various vegetables, and whatever other challenges come up. The 70 acre family farm is still in the family, so there is a chance of returning to growing food some day!

Mike Smith - [Ignatius Farm CSA](#)

Mike Smith has farmed organic vegetables for the better part of the last 14 years. The last eight have been at the Ignatius Jesuit Centre in Guelph, Ontario. Mike has trained over fifty apprentices in the Principles and Practices of Organic Agriculture Program and is a former coordinator of the [C.R.A.F.T. Network](#) in SW Ontario.

