

WAYNE ROBERTS, PhD

CONDENSED CV

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WAYNE ROBERTS is one of Canada's leading food policy analysts, known for his wide-ranging experience as a policy specialist, a popular blogger, writer, speaker, social media guru, organizer and scholar. Wayne developed and taught the first course in food security in the Equity Studies program at New College, University of Toronto, and the first course in green entrepreneurship at the Faculty of Environmental Studies at York University, as well as courses on the business of food and farming, media and the environment, and others. For more than 20 years, Wayne wrote a weekly column in Toronto's alternative weekly, NOW Magazine, which focused on the politics of food and the environment. He has been committed to food system transformation since his arrest in 1988 in Temagami in northern Ontario during a protest to preserve the last stands of old growth red and white pine in eastern North America. Wayne's work with local people trying to find alternative employment opportunities to logging led him to conclude that food is the lynchpin of the green economy. He founded the Coalition for a Green Economy in 1992 to focus on economic solutions to the environmental crisis. Since retiring from the City of Toronto as the Manager of the Toronto Food Policy Council in 2010, Wayne has consulted and spoken to many cities and food policy councils around the world on food and cities, food policy councils, green infrastructure, citizen engagement on food issues. In addition to his blogging and media work, Wayne has authored or co-authored a dozen books and many academic articles and book chapters.

EDUCATION

PhD, History, University of Toronto, 1978

Master of Arts, History, University of California at Berkeley, 1969

Bachelor of Arts, History, York University (Glendon), 1967

EMPLOYMENT

Food Systems Consultant and Speaker, 2010 to the present
(Worked with municipal governments and citizen groups in Almere, Amsterdam, Ann Arbor, Baltimore, Bonn, Bristol, Buffalo, Calgary, Cardiff, Charlottetown, Cologne, Detroit, Edmonton, Frankfurt, Halifax, Kingston, Las Vegas, London, Milan, Montpellier, Montreal, North Bay, Ottawa, Peterborough, Red Deer, Rome, Rotterdam, Sudbury, Syracuse, Turin, Utrecht, Vancouver, Victoria and Yellowknife)

Visiting Scholar, New College, University of Toronto, 2010-2015

Manager, Toronto Food Policy Council, City of Toronto, 2000-2010

University Lecturer, University of Toronto and York University, 1997-2016
(Research Practicum in Food Security, The Business of Food and Farming, Green Entrepreneurship, Media and Environment, Cultural Production)

Publisher, Get A Life Publishers, 1993-2000

Columnist, NOW Magazine, 1989-2012

Assistant to the President, Ontario Public Service Employees Union, 1983-1989

Editor, Quality of Working Life Magazine, Ontario Ministry of Labour, 1982-1983

Assistant Professor, Departments of History and Labour Studies, McMaster University, 1977-1982.

Writer, 1976 to the present

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Roberts, W. (2014). *Food for City Building: A Field Guide for Planners, Actionists and Entrepreneurs*. Hypenotic.

Roberts, W. (2013). *The No-Nonsense Guide to World Food, 2nd ed.* New Internationalist. (translated into Thai and Russian)

Roberts, W. (2008). *The No-Nonsense Guide to World Food*. New Internationalist. (Translated into Japanese)

Roberts, W., MacRae, R. and Stahlbrand, L. (1999). *Real Food For A Change*. Random House of Canada.

Roberts, W. and Brandum, S. (1995). *Get A Life! How to Make a Good Buck, Dance Around the Dinosaurs and Save the World While You're at It*. Get a Life Publishing.

Roberts, W. (1994). *Don't Call Me Servant: Government Work and Unions in Ontario, 1911-1984*. Ontario Public Service Employees Union.

Roberts, W. and Ehring, G. (1993). *Giving Away A Miracle: Lost Dreams, Broken Promises and the Ontario NDP*. Mosaic Press.

Roberts, W. and Brandum, S. (1993). *Get A Life! A Green Cure for Canada's Economic Blues*. Get A Life Publishing.

Roberts, W. (1990). *Cracking the Canadian Formula: The Making of the Energy and Chemical Workers Union*. Between the Lines.

Roberts, W. and Clancy, J. (1985). *All For One: Arguments from the Labour Trial of the Century on the Real Meaning of Unionism*. Ontario Public Service Employees Union.

Roberts, W. and Heron, C. (1981). *All That Our Hands Have Done: A Pictorial History of Hamilton Workers*. Mosaic Press.

Roberts, W. (1976). *Honest Womanhood: Feminism, Femininity and Class Consciousness Among Toronto Working Women, 1893-1914*. New Hogtown Press.

Academic Articles and Book Chapters

Many academic articles, book chapters and reports. Most recent academic publications:

Stahlbrand, Lori and Roberts, W. (2020). *Local Food System Responses to COVID 19: Toronto and Its City Region*. City Region Food Systems Programme. FAO.

Roberts, W. (forthcoming). Towards People- and City-Centered Food Policy. In S. Raja (ed.). *Urban Agriculture in the United States: Future Directions for a New Ethic in City Building*. Springer.

Roberts, W. and Stahlbrand, L. (forthcoming). Food Policy Councils: Navigating the Shift from Policy to Guidance at the Toronto Food Policy Council. In E. Desjardins and J. Sumner (eds.). *Critical Food Guidance*. McGill-Queens University Press.

Stahlbrand, L. and Roberts, W. (2019) The Evolving Role of Food Policy Councils: Making the shift from policy to critical food guidance. In J. Halliday, C. Torres, and R. van Veenhuizen, (eds.). *Urban Agriculture Magazine, Vol 36. "Special Issue on Food Policy Councils"*. The RUAF Foundation.

Roberts, W and Stahlbrand, L. (2017). A Smiling Face is Half the Meal: Setting a Place for Culture. In Food Advocacy. In K. LeBesco and P. Naccarato (eds.) *The Handbook of Food and Popular Culture*. Bloomsbury Academic.

Roberts, W. (2016) Afterword: Food 360: Seeing Our Way Around Learning About Food. In J. Sumner (ed.) *Learning, Food and Sustainability: Sites for Resistance and Change*. Palgrave MacMillan

Roberts, W. (2016) Food Policy Encounters of a Third Kind: How the Toronto Food Policy Council Socializes for Sustain-ability. In A. Blay-Palmer (ed.) *Imagining Sustainable Food Systems Theory and Practice*. Routledge.

Roberts, W. (2015). Food, Health and Equity: Making the Connections in Public Health Practice. In Roni Neff (ed.) *An Introduction to the U.S. Food System: Public Health, Environment and Equity*. Jossey Bass.

Roberts, W. (2015) Life of Bryan: Working the Magic of Sustainable Food's Sweet Spot. Part 2. *Canadian Food Studies, Vol. 2, No. 1*.

Roberts, W. (2014). Life of Bryan: Working the Magic of Sustainable Food's Sweet Spot. *Canadian Food Studies, Vol. 1, No. 1*.

Popular Writing and Social Media

Many articles and blog posts for a wide range of popular media. Most recent popular publications:

Roberts, Wayne. *Seeding Climate Action on Canada's Farms*, Corporate Knights, April 15, 2020.

Roberts, Wayne. *Urban Agriculture is Dead! Cities Have One, Two, Three...Many Urban Agricultures*. Medium.com, Jan. 8, 2020.

Roberts, Wayne. *How a man on a mission built Toronto's ChocoSol into one of the quirkiest, most socially responsible chocolate producers in the city*. Toronto Star and Corporate Knights, Dec. 23, 2019.

Roberts, Wayne. *McDonald's and Harvey's now serve 'sustainable beef'— but what exactly does that mean?* Toronto Star and Corporate Knights, Dec. 1, 2019.

Roberts, Wayne. *How to Plan Meetings on Community Food Security*. Medium.com, Oct. 27, 2018.

Roberts, Wayne. *What Grows in Vegas Stays in Vegas*. Medium.com, Oct. 11, 2017.

Roberts, Wayne. *This Woman Has Been A Leader in Toronto Food Security*. Torontoist.com, Oct. 3, 2016.

Roberts, Wayne. *This Somali Chef Shows the Potential in Toronto's Food Scene*. Torontoist.com. Aug. 8, 2016.

Active social media presence with more than 100,000 Twitter followers.

Moderator/Manager for LinkedIn Groups including *Food Council MRA (Amsterdam)*, *Food for City-Building*, *Food Gardens*, *Food Security*, *Food Waste*, and *Global Food Movements*.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Board Member, UNESCO Chair in Food, Biodiversity, and Sustainability Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University, 2020 to the present

Steering Committee Member, Farm to Cafeteria Canada, 2018 to the present

International Advisory Committee Member, Laurier Centre for Sustainable Food Systems, 2013 to the present

Board Member, FoodShare, 2012-2015

Board Member, USC (now SeedChange), 2011-2015

Steering Committee/Advisory Committee Member, Sustain Ontario, 2009-2015

Editorial Board Member, Alternatives Journal, 2006-2016

Board Member, Green Enterprise Toronto, 2003-2008

Board Member, Food Secure Canada, 2002-2012

Board Member, Community Food Security Coalition, 2002-2012

Member, City of Toronto Environmental Task Force, 1998-2000

Founding Board Member, Earthroots, 1995-2000

Founder and Chair, Coalition for a Green Economy, 1992-2002

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Canadian Association for Food Studies Lifetime Achievement Award, 2020

Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, 2012

Food Secure Canada Lifetime Achievement Award, 2012

University of Toronto Arbor Award, 2011

Toronto Public Health Certificate of Appreciation, 2010

City of Toronto Bob Hunter Environmental Achievement Award, 2009

Planet in Focus Canadian Eco-Hero Award, 2008

Toronto Public Health Staff Recognition Award, 2002

Canadian Environment Award, 2002

Toronto's Leading Visionaries, Now Magazine, 2002

Award of Recognition, McMaster Students Union, 1983

Canada Council Doctoral Fellowship Award, 1969-1974

Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, 1967-1968

York University Scholarship, 1963-1967