

Applying a Bucketful of CED Strategies

This exercise will help you identify opportunities to plug the leaks

Plugging the leaks is also called Import Substitution. Plugging the leaks focuses on reducing the number of imports brought into a local economy. Examples of strategies which aim to plug leaks include co-ops and credit unions (when we buy financial services from one of the big FIVE banks, we are importing financial services from Toronto or Montreal); buy local campaigns, and developing new businesses that can supply manufacturers (eco-tourist operators sometimes fly in supplies from Vancouver! Or offices can join forces to purchase paper products from a new local supplier)

Household Survey of Expenditures (note: answer according to where *you* make purchases—for example if you buy food at a local grocery store, but you know that they import their food—answer this as a local expenditure. A survey of business expenditures will reveal these imports.)

	Local	Non-local
Rent/Mortgage		
Energy		
Internet Service Provider		
Food		
Transportation (insurance, gas, etc)		
Education		
Holiday/vacation		
Arts, culture and entertainment		
Health, recreation and/or sports		
Childcare		
Professional services (lawyer, accountant, etc)		
Banking Services		
Savings		
Other stuff		

Just pretend that you are a typical household (!)

Identify one activity that is currently supplied non-locally AND that you think has the most potential to be supplied locally either through new business development and/or supporting existing businesses.

Multiply the amount by 6000 (roughly the population of Smithers & surrounding area).

How much more money could be circulated in your community's economy?

Asset Mapping

Human Capital

- labour market skills

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Social & Cultural Capital

Financial Capital

Ecological Capital

