

## **Appendix: LIST OF SERVICES IN SOTKAMO**

### **Education**

#### **Primary schools**

Class 0 is pre-primary education for 6 years old children. Pre-primary education is voluntary but in Sotkamo 97 % of age group use this opportunity. As a rule pupils go to class 1 when they are seven years old. Finland has nine years of compulsory schooling. Comprehensive schools are primarily run by local authorities. The government contributes to the financing of all of the schools. For children, the teaching and educational equipment are free of charge. In addition, pupils get one free warm meal a day. As a rule, transportation is arranged by the education provider for distances of 5 km and over.

Classes 1-6 are lower primary school, classes 7 -9 form the upper primary school. Pupils with learning difficulties and disabilities get special teaching in addition to normal classes. Educational authorities are responsible for the education of also the children with developmental disabilities.

#### *Upper and lower primary classes*

##### School of Salmela in Sotkamo Centre (Salmelan koulu)

- 291 pupils and 15 teachers
- classes 0-6
- in special classes 12 pupils and 8 teachers, (special teachers also work in village schools)
- classes 0-9

##### School of Tenetti in Vuokatti (Tenetin koulu)

- 90 pupils, classes 1-6
- 385 pupils classes 7-9
- in special classes 17 pupils (children with difficulties and disabilities), classes 1-9
- 41 teachers: subject teachers, part-time teachers, special teachers

#### *Lower primary classes, only*

##### School of Vuokatti village (Vuokatin koulu)

- 134 pupils and 6 teachers
- classes 1-6

##### School of Heinimäki village (Heinämäen koulu)

- 26 pupils and 2 teachers
- classes 1-6

##### School of Juurikkalahti village (Juurikkalahden koulu)

- 23 pupils 2 teachers
- classes 1-6

##### School of Kontinjoki village (Kontinjoen koulu)

- 41 pupils and 3 teachers
- classes 0-6

##### School of Naapurinvaara village (Naapurinvaaran koulu)

- 38 pupils and 3 teachers
  - classes 1-6
- School of Pohjanvaara village (Pohjavaaran koulu)
- 54 pupils and 3 teachers
  - classes 0-6
- School of Pohjois-Tipas village (Pohjois-Tipaksen koulu)
- 34 pupils and 2 teachers
  - classes 0-6
- School of Sapsokoski village (Sapsokosken koulu)
- 31 pupils and 2 teachers
  - classes 1-6
- School of Soidinvaara village (Soidinvaaran koulu)
- 51 pupils and 3 teachers
  - classes 0-6
- School of Tipasooja village (Tipasojan koulu)
- 31 pupils and 2 teachers
  - classes 1-6
- School of Tuhkakylä village (Tuhkakylän koulu)
- 31 pupils and 2 teachers
  - classes 0-6

### **Secondary education**

- Upper Secondary: Sotkamo Gymnasium (Sotkamon Lukio), also nominated a national Upper Secondary School of Sport. Education time can be between 2,5 to 4 years

Vocational education and training is co-financed by the government and the local authorities. Teaching and meals are free for students. Vocational training programmes take three years to complete.

- Kainuu Vocational Institute (Kainuun Ammatti-Instituutti), Vuokatti College (Vuokatin opisto) Vuokatti Unit, training in tourism, nutrition, catering, foodstuffs.  
Sotkamo Unit, training in forestry, environment, nature entrepreneurs, wilderness guides, sports

### **Higher education**

The Finnish higher education system consists of two sectors: universities and polytechnics. The polytechnics are more practically oriented, training professionals for expert and development posts.

Kajaani Polytechnic (40 km from Sotkamo) has 1500 students and a staff of 130 persons. It offers education in eight programmes leading to degree:

- Business Administration
- Data Processing
- International Business
- Tourism Management
- Hospitality Management
- Nursing
- Public Health Nurses

- Information Technology
- Mechanical and Production Engineering
- Construction Engineering

*University of Oulu* (200 km from Sotkamo) has two regional units in Kajaani (40 km from Sotkamo).

- Kajaani Department of Teacher Education
- Research and Development of Kajaani
  - Regional Development
  - Adult Education
  - Measurement and Sensor Laboratory
  - In Sotkamo there is a Biotechnology Laboratory

### **Other training courses**

- Employment training courses. Sotkamo Labour Office (of the Ministry of Labour) is financing special training courses for unemployed persons: In 2002 altogether 15 courses were organised in 1) personnel management, 2) computer skills, 3) call centre work. Courses lasted 1 - 3 months. The initiatives for courses may come from the local unemployed and entrepreneurs. If a need for labour force is large enough, special training may be tailored according to the needs of one entrepreneur, as in the case of example the new call centre enterprise. In addition, support for apprenticeship training is available.
- Open Adult Education Institute (Sotkamon kansalaisopisto). Mainly student are over 15 years old, courses in foreign languages, handicrafts, open university courses, continuing training of professional skills, art courses for children and young people. Altogether 2000 students, 7500-8000 hours of lessons every year.
- Conservatory of Kuhmo, Sotkamo Unit (Kuhmon musiikkiopisto, Sotkamon toimipiste) gives training in various instruments and playing in orchestra. In addition it runs a kindergarten with special music emphasis.

### **Health Services**

In Finland the municipality is responsible for providing its residents with social welfare and health services. The municipality can produce these services itself or together with neighbouring municipalities. The municipality can also purchase services from private enterprises operating on business principles, from bodies operating on a not-for-profit basis, or from other municipalities or joint municipal boards.

### **Hospitals**

- Central Hospital in Kajaani (40 km), special care, owned by the municipalities of Kainuu Region
- Oulu University Central Hospital (200 km) (heart operations, part of cancer treatments)

- Health Centre in Sotkamo
  - ward (38 beds)
  - surgery of nurses and doctors with scheduled appointments
  - emergency duty from Monday to Friday 08.00-18.00, on Saturday 09.00-15.00, other times in Central hospital in Kajaani
  - dentist's practice
- Private Health Clinic (Medifysi Oy) only by appointment
  - general practitioner, specialist
  - rehabilitation services

For Finnish citizens the costs are partly refunded by public social security insurance.

- Ambulance Service: One private ambulance company with two cars, the arrival time in the cases of emergency in the centre of Sotkamo 5 minutes and in the most remote village 40 minutes (60 km).

## Quality of life

### Post offices

- Head post office in the centre of Sotkamo
- In Vuokatti Sport College area, one private enterprise (Vihreä Kivi) has limited postal services.
- Postal delivery is organised by routes. In Sotkamo there are 12 delivery routes (of which seven in sparsely populated areas and 5 in centres of Sotkamo and Vuokatti).

If the distance to the nearest post office is more than 5 km, there is no charge for bringing post packets to the receiver. The mailboxes of clients may be located even so far as 1 km from one's home. Summer inhabitants may buy a special service that their mail is delivered to the mailbox of a permanent resident in Sotkamo. In addition, outgoing mail is collected from these mailboxes.

### Labour office

Sotkamo Labour Office (Ministry of Labour) is a labour market agency serving employers and employees, and giving vocational guidance.

### Tourist offices and marketing

- Travel Agency Matka-Vuokatti (incoming), owned by Matka-Ruka Company
- Travel Agency Matka-Harila
- Sotkamo Tourism marketing is also a function of Superjymy Oy (Ltd), which is a baseball team plying in the national super series.

### Security

One police station located in Sotkamo centre, during some night times and weekends the nearest police station on emergency duty is in Kajaani (40 km).

## **Children's Care Services**

In Finland municipalities are responsible for organising day care services. The parents of all children under school age have the right to a place in day care for their child. It is also possible to receive a private childcare allowance in order to provide their children with private care. Municipal day care is provided at day care centres and in family day care. The day care fees are based on family size and income level. Families with low incomes are charged no fee. The fees cover, in Finland in general, about 15 percent of the total day care costs.

In Sotkamo there are four kindergartens providing whole-day care and one family-like kindergarten providing care also at evenings. In addition there is a mobile day-home circulating in villages. The kindergarten personnel have also skills in caring disabled children. Altogether there are places for 220 children in kindergartens.

In addition to kindergartens there are 42 family day care providers, who are taking care of children in their own homes, from one to five children in each group.

## **The Care of the Old**

In Finland the municipality is responsible for providing its residents with social welfare services and about 90 per cent of services for older people are provided by the public sector. The proportion of social services purchased from private service-providers is on the rise. The services for the old may be divided in support services (like transports), home help, and home nursing.

In Sotkamo the support services may include various kinds of help, like warm suppers, laundry, bathing, cleaning, transports to services, day clubs, and safety phones. Municipal home help and home nursing are provided depending on the situation: an old person may be visited once a month or even several times a day. The users of these services pay a fee. In Sotkamo there is a nursing institution for the old (Himmeli) with 24 places and five other service houses homes with 40 apartments, of which 16 are reserved for old persons with memory disorders. In addition there is a service home for those needing short-term care.