



Eskola

Services from our own village



Eskola, national Village of the year 2001 ja 2017

- Active village movement already in the 1970's
- Eskola Village Society, est. 1997
 - EU projects from the very beginning
 - Coordinating the village development
 - Other societies and village businesses work independently
- Eskola has been a case example in various studies on rural and village development
- Around 450 inhabitants, a couple hundred of industrial work places

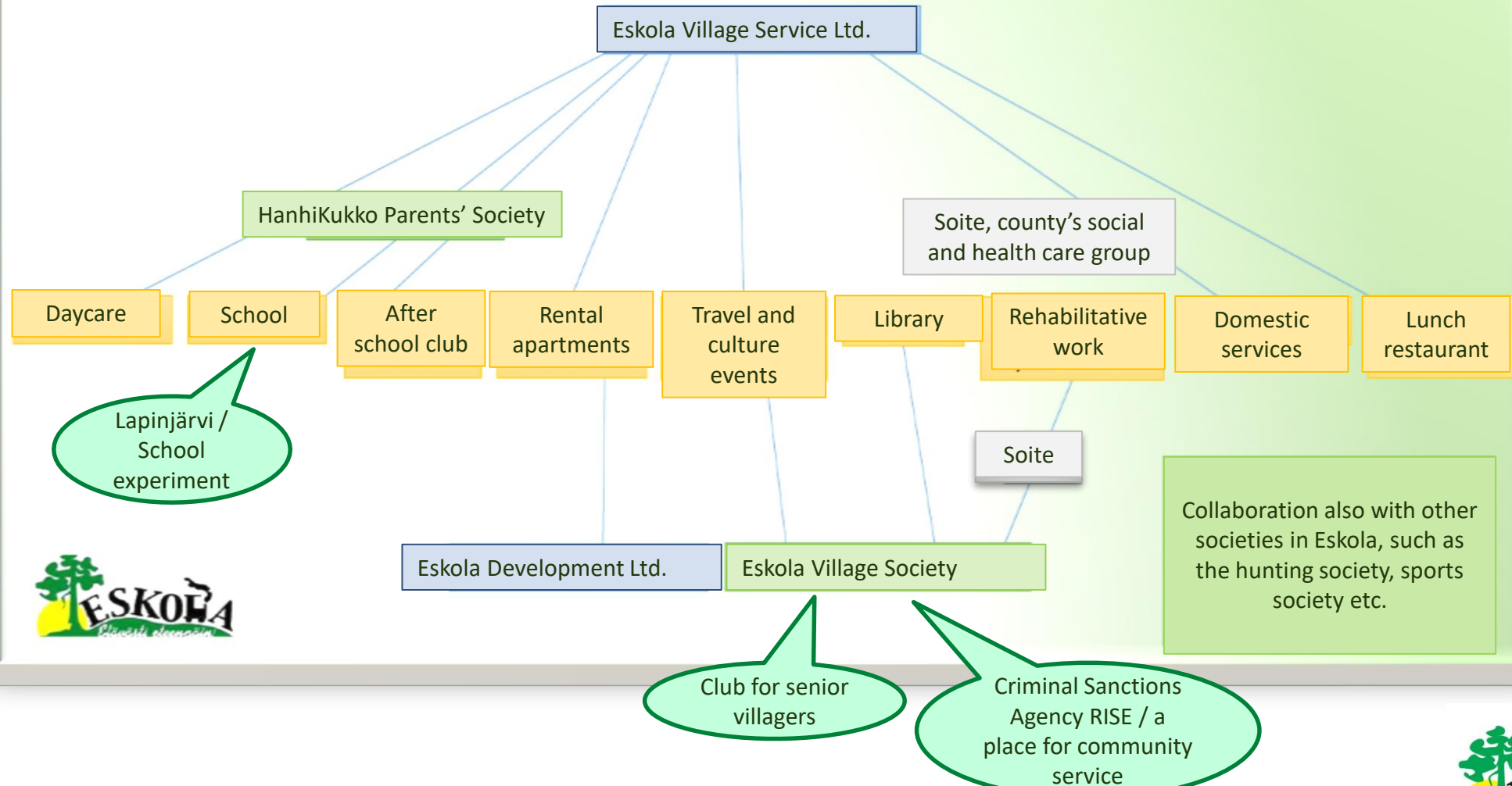


Eskolan Kyläpalvelu Oy - Eskola Village Service Ltd.

- An answer to diminishing local services
- Social enterprising in village surroundings
- Over 130 stockholders
- Local service centre on a former village school
- Services change and expand all the time, the turnover is growing steadily



Services provided by Eskola village



Eskola Village Service Ltd.

Daycare Tenavatalli

- Tenavatalli = "Kid Shed" (referring to old locomotive sheds)
- Facilities in the local service center
- Daycare for up to 24 children
- Different ways to receive daycare
 - Contract with the town of Kannus
 - Service voucher (used in other towns nearby)
 - Direct contract with the company, the national social insurance institution provides support for some of the daycare fees



PÄIVÄKOTI
TENAVATALLI
ESKOLA

ESKOJA
Elävästi eteenpäin!

Lunch restaurant Pikku-Pässi and the kiosk

- Pikku-Pässi, "the Little Ram", referring to the old locomotives used on the old Eskola forest railroad
- Open on all weekdays (Mon-Fri)
- Provides food also for the daycare and the school children
- A possibility to order food home
 - Domestic service worker takes warm lunch to the (elderly) villagers
- Catering service
- The kiosk serves as a substitute for the missing village shop



Domestic services

Supporting living at home

- Lunch delivery from the restaurant
- Non-medical services
 - House cleaning, washing/dressing up assistance etc.
- Both private customers and via Soite
 - Cooperation with the county's social and medical group is developed all the time
- With Soite's assessment, the customers are able to receive services with VAT 0%



School

- The public village school was run down in 2013
- Some of the parents decided to provide homeschooling in the village service centre
- Parents' Society HanhiKukko did all the fundraising
- A teacher was hired via Eskola Village Service Ltd. but paid by the parents' society
- Food and facilities were provided without any cost to the parents by the Eskola Village Service Ltd.
- Public school in Finland is free of charge, but in homeschooling the parents are responsible for everything, both the education and the financing
- The parents worked desperately to find a "mother school" for Eskola students, to take some of the strain away



School

Something new: A school experiment with the municipality of Lapinjärvi

- A sudden encounter with a village society member and the mayor of Lapinjärvi in a workshop in Helsinki in 2016
- A long and a hard road, two years of fighting bureaucracy
- Eskola primary school starts under the Lapinjärvi municipal school (distance 500 km) in fall **2018**
- A teacher is always present, but new digital technology is being adapted (internet connection, various digital solutions, collaboration with Google)
- Three sectors working together
 - The municipality of Lapinjärvi, Parents' Society HanhiKukko, Eskola Village Service Ltd.
- The first official experiment on a digital platform created by Experimental Finland, a project by the Prime Minister's Office of Finland



Eskola Village
Society

Sports Society
Eskolan Eskot

Other services provided by the village



Rehabilitative work in village surroundings

- 10 work places, managed by a foreman hired by the village society (with Soite's support)

Community service location

- Cooperation with Criminal Sanctions Agency and Eskola village society

Summer jobs for the youngsters

- Eskola village society and the sports club Eskolan Eskot provide jobs for all the young people (age 15-21) during summertime

Wednesday Club

- A club for village seniors organised by Eskola village society

Receiving EVS volunteers

- Village society in EU Erasmus projects, Spanish volunteer workers in the village since 2015

Other services provided by the village

Rental apartments

- A row house constructed by Eskola Development Ltd
- A row house owned by Eskola Village Service Ltd. near the service centre

Travel and culture

- Eskola village society's volunteer-based summer theatre
 - 3000-4000 spectators every year
- Many historical and cultural sites around the village
 - Eskola Forest railroad museum, based on a former main income in the village



Taking care of traditional cultural landscapes and wetlands

- The village society has a contract with the local Centre of Development, Transport and Environment

Coming up...

Village Service Guidance Centre

- Information on rural and village development
 - Info bank for the grass root level, for the scientists and decision makers
 - Professor Eero Uusitalo's archive and library
 - Eero Uusitalo was a key part of developing Leader in Finland
 - Eskola's own experiences in the development of village services
 - Updating, living entirety through cooperation
- Village book library
 - All the Finnish village books gathered in the same library
- An old school building next to the village service centre is being renovated for the purpose
 - EU investment funding for the renovation



How come we are here?

- 1. A will to live:** Vanishing public and other services had to be provided by the village itself, the other option would have been a slow degeneration
- 2. A will to find out, to learn, to know how:** An open approach to new things and a self-reliance, bravery to take steps forward
- 3. A strong foundation in own culture and history,** services created from own starting points – no one can do them better or take them away!





Welcome to Eskola!

www.eskolankyla.fi

Services by the Community -project

palvelevayhteiso@saunalahti.fi

p. 044 947 9102



Euroopan maaseudun
kehittämisen maatalousrahasto:
Eurooppa investoi maaseutualueisiin