

# Grundtvig-PACT



Education and culture

Lifelong Learning Programme

**P**-arents, **A**-dult, **C**-hildren, **T**-eachers

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The fifth international meeting- KUOPIO/FINLAND 9.3.2009 -13.3.2009

On Monday 9.3.2009 People came to Kuopio in different times, but everybody has come to Kuopio before the evening meeting. Everybody was living at the hotel Cumulus.

During the first day we had a little video presentation "Welcome to Kuopio at Municipal Council building. After that presentation we moved to our community college. We had our welcoming drink and we got acquainted with each other.

In community college the headmaster Hannu Pulkkinen tell us the services and the principals of Kuopio community college. Then we got known the classes and the activity of Kuopio community college.

We had this visiting round through the house of community college. We stopped in the class where was the Spanish course and the teacher Juha Perez introduced the learning system. Then we had dinner in Kuopio community college by Martta coffee. After the dinner we had discussing at our theory class. We introduced ourselves and discussed about our project.

During the second day we visited the education department of Kuopio. The educational co-ordinator Eila Kumpulainen introduced the school system in Kuopio.

She had also the Power Point show, that can be seen in our projects webside “more information”. Eila also introduced the educational organization of Kuopio. After this visit we went to Kalevala primary and lower secondary school. There the headmaster Merja Launonen told us about the school system. And after that we get known the classes and the learning tools. They have in Kalevala school a lot immigrant students.

In Kuopios Kalevala school there are many immigrants pupils. It is the only school that gives the education for the immigrants at primary and lower secondary school. We also had the lunch with the pupils.

After the Kalevala school visit we visited the youth house 44. In Kuopio the youth services belongs to recreational services centre. There were two youth councillors who told us about the youth services in Kuopio. We have in Kuopio 20 youthhouses, where young people can spend their free time and have some activities for their life.

### **Recreational Services Centre**

**The vision of the Kuopio City Recreational Services Centre for 2010: Kuopio is a successful, pleasant city to live in. There is an extensive variety of sports and youth work activities available in Kuopio.**

The focus areas of Recreational Services Centre:

- 1) youth participation & collectivism
- 2) promoting events
- 3) health enhancing exercise

Recreational Services Centre provides the residents with facilities for different sports and youth free-time activities, promotes youth sports and leisure activities as well as supports young people on their way towards adulthood and finding their places in society.

After the Youth house 44 visit we have a meeting with the co-ordinators from each country. We discussed about the project results and we got throw the Grundtvig learning partnerships final reports. We also looked the web sides of this project. And we had a look for our project calanders, What we had made in our own countries and schools. In the

evening we had dinner at restaurant “Isä Camillo”. And there we had a visitor of our teachers unit taina Rääikkönen who discussed with our visitor about the finish teachers rights and work resbonsibilities.

During the third day we visited the Kuopio refugee Unit in Kuopios social office and social worker Marja-Leena . Marja Leena told us about the immigrants rights and how we help them in Kuopio. We got known the EU-project “Welcoming Pohjois-Savo project” by supervisor Johanna Jussila. The project tries to organize the immigrants services easily available for all immigrants in Pohjois-Savo.

### **Immigrant services**

**The Refugee Unit in Kuopio receives and integrates refugees and repatriate Finns into Finnish society, in co-operation with other authorities. The office services help refugees and repatriate Finns adjusting into Finnish society and support preservation of their own cultural identity.**

Development of our society on cultural community accepting diversity and heritage. The aim of the unit is also to promote futher understanding of Finnish society of different cultures and diversity.

Our clients can receive guidance and advice in all problematic situations in their new society.

For example:

- Basic social work
- Financial support
- Domestic help to families
- Services of the Department of family affairs
- Health Services

Then we had a visit in Kuopios Savo vocational college. The immigrants education supervisor Sinikka Miettinen told us about the schoolsystem what they do in their vocational college. They have different education courses for immigrants before they go to basic vocational studies.

We had our lunch at municipal council building. After the lunch we went to Kuopio community college.

We made some profiles from each others in handigrfts. It was very intresting to do something with you hands. We had a very good handigraft teacher Aino Sahi, who taught us the tecnics of this work.



Our headmaster Hannu Pulkkinen had with few men a driving lesson in the lakeside. They drowe with Hannus car on the ice on the lake of Kallavesi.

During the fourth day we visited the Multiculture Centre Kompassi. It is the meeting place and point to all emigrants, who have come to Kuopio. You can also learn there the Finnish language once a week. After this visit we went to see our marketplace and the harbour and we made some shopping. We had our lunch at restaurant Sampo, which was the oldest restaurant in Kuopio.

After the lunch we parted to three groups. One group went to Kinder garden Tuuliviiri, one group went to our nature "PUIJO" hill and the third group went to orthodox church museum. The Kinder garden's teacher told us about the pedagogy of Tuuliviiri. There were a lot of immigrants' children to take care of.

In the evening we had our farewell meeting at Haminalahti hunting lodge. We had sauna, discussion about the project and a good dinner.



We think that the whole meeting and visit was very nice and we had a lot of discussing about our school system and work with the immigrants. We thought also that we reached our projects aims and goals together.

**WELCOME TO FINLAND**

<http://www.kuopio.fi/englishhome.nsf>   <http://www.kuopioinfo.fi/english/index.php>

