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LET'S LOOK AFTER EACH OTHER



**I wish you
a sunny
summer!**

THE CORONAVIRUS has taken the entire world by surprise. We are living in an unprecedented state of emergency. This situation requires everyone to change their habits and follow new rules.

For example, nearly 90 per cent of VTS-kodit's 65 employees have moved on to remote work, meaning that they conduct their work mainly from home offices. I want to thank our wonderful staff who had not worked remotely before but still came up with ideas and new operating models very quickly. We were able to resume our operations rapidly. Tenants continue to receive services through all of our service channels, with a focus on electronic services, of course.

This crisis has isolated us in our homes, but it has also made us see the people around us who may need help with new routines. Neighbourly help has become exceptionally important.

We can all do our part for society. For example, we at VTS-kodit make a phone call to all our tenants aged over 70 to ask them how they are. We want our older tenants to have networks that help and support them when needed. The tenants have welcomed the calls, and we have received extremely positive feedback for them.

I'm also challenging our tenants to consider if someone close to them needs help – and to offer help. The tenants of VTS-kodit have the benefit of neighbours knowing each other, thanks to various tenant activities. This makes it easier to both ask for help and offer help. Don't hesitate to drop a note through your neighbour's letterbox if you think they may need help or someone to talk to!

Summer is just around the corner, so now is a good time to prepare for VTS-kodit's Summer Oasis Competition. My personal oasis is my balcony, where I plant herb seedlings from the market to join my summer flowers. Herbs are rewarding plants – even for us whose fingers aren't all that green. I planted them on my balcony for the first time last year, and I was positively surprised to see how rapidly the seedlings grew. I could enjoy their flavours throughout the summer. I hope everyone will be just as lucky with plants this year – in all of the summer oases at VTS-kodit!

Satu Eskelinen
CEO, VTS-kodit



THE ENGLISH VERSION OF VTS-KODIT'S WEBSITE IS NOW OPEN

HAVE YOU seen the English version of our website? You can find it at www.vts.fi/asukkaalle/inenglish. The website contains plenty of information about our housing to both current tenants and those considering applying for an apartment.

In addition to this, the front page of our website (www.vts.fi) has a link with current information about the coronavirus pandemic in English, Finnish and Arabic.

We want to do our part to prevent the coronavirus from spreading. Because of this, all events of VTS-

kodit have been cancelled, and our offices are closed for the time being. We have also closed the saunas and gyms of the buildings. We only visit the apartments to make essential repairs.

However, the laundry rooms are still in use. Tenants need to make sure that only one person uses the shared facilities or the lift at a time. Tenants with any symptoms of a cold or flu must not use the shared facilities of the building.

New opening hours

OUR OFFICE now has longer opening hours. During the coronavirus pandemic, the opening hours primarily concern our phone services. Once the situation normalises, you will be able to visit our office from Monday to Thursday at 9:00–15:00 and on Fridays at 9:00–13:00.



JOY AND COLOUR IN THE HALLWAYS!

TENANT committees and the housing manager have planned some changes to the entrance halls in Hervanta and Lukonmäki. The idea was to create an impressive entrance of which every tenant could be proud.

“At Tarjanteenkatu, the tenants wanted to see something surprising. I picked summery wallpaper with landscape photos for the entrance and the club room, and the walls were painted with a cheerful colour scheme,” says housing manager **Neringa Lehtonen**.

After the renovations, a tenant emailed the housing manager, saying:

“The surprise was a 100% success! A super nice renovation. It was so great to leave for work in the

morning and see my favourite flowers, daisies, in the hallway!”

Share your ideas

The tenants of Opiskelijankatu FG have also given positive feedback. There, the entrance hall includes wall paintings, as suggested by the tenant committee.

“The tenant committee met with artist **Hennakirsikka Halme** and wished for natural themes: water, plants and animals. The artist implemented the works based on the tenants’ wishes and with artistic expression and imagination. The other walls in the entrance halls also needed an update. The works of art will be complemented by smaller works with the same theme”.

The housing manager came up with stripes in bright colours at the entrance halls of Orivedenkatu 13 and Lukonmäenkatu 2. Next, photo wallpapers will be placed at Atomikatu 7, where the tenant committee has also presented their wishes.

“We will continue to use art and colours in the buildings, whenever possible. We’re keen to listen to our tenants and we’re glad to receive ideas about hallway paintings, art on the yards and other projects.”

You can send your wishes at asukastoiminta@vts.fi.



WHAT KINDS OF TENANT ACTIVITIES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE?

VTS-KODIT turned 50 this year and started a tenant choir to celebrate the anniversary. The singers trained eleven times with a professional choirmaster and learned two multipart songs.

Everyone was welcome to join the choir. We ended up having 15 enthusiastic singers. The choirmaster, musician **Petra Poutanen**, praises the participants:

“This choir outdid themselves

each time. What a wonderfully colourful group!”

Many of the participants had a lifelong dream of singing in a choir, and now their dream came true.

“This has been an amazing experience. We have a great group, and it’s fun to sing together. We overcame our shyness right away, and we’ve even been practising with neighbours. Choir singing is an excellent tenant activity,” the singers say.



The choir project has now come to an end, and we are looking for more ideas for new kinds of tenant activities. We will be happy to hear our tenants’ wishes and suggestions. Please tell us what you’d like to do with your neighbours: asukastoiminta@vts.fi



JOIN THE SUMMER OASIS COMPETITION!

WE ARE now looking for beautiful summer oases at VTS-kodit. Your summer oasis can be your balcony, garden or even a comfortable corner in your living room. Share a photo of your summer oasis for a chance to win a gift card to Netflix or Elisa Kirja!

How to participate:

1. Take a photo of your VTS summer oasis.
2. Share the photo on Facebook or Instagram using the hashtag #vtskodit, and also send the photo to us in a private message.
3. If you don't use social media, you can also participate by sending the photo by email: asukastoiminta@vts.fi.

Two gift cards worth 25 euros each will be drawn at random among everyone who participated by 30 June. The winner can choose if they want a gift card to Netflix or Elisa Kirja.

When you participate and share your photo, you accept that VTS-kodit may use the photo in its marketing.

