

Joni Brill Dashoff
Worldcon 2017 Site Selection
POBox 310 Huntingdon Valley
PA USA 19006



Dear Joni,

On behalf of the **Helsinki in 2017** bid committee, I would like to announce our intent to bid to host the 75th World Science Fiction Convention in Helsinki, Finland. Our proposed venue is the **Messukeskus** Helsinki, Expo and Convention Centre, and our proposed dates are from Wednesday 9 to Sunday 13 August 2017.

For hotel rooms, we have preliminary agreements with the **Restel** and **Sokos** hotel groups, for a current total of **1620 rooms** in their hotels in Helsinki, including a booking for the entirety of the Holiday Inn Helsinki Messukeskus, which shares a lobby with the conference centre. In Helsinki, we have over fifty hotels within easy reach of the convention centre using our excellent public transport network—which will be free for our members, should we win—so finding accommodation should not prove difficult here. It's worth noting that in Finland, taxes are customarily included in prices and tipping is not common. Hotel prices, for instance, should include all taxes and fees, free wifi, and a breakfast smorgasbord in the price of the room unless specified otherwise.

Please find attached letters from the convention centre as well as both hotel groups. Also included you'll find a map of the facilities and their locations in Helsinki, along with some photos of the convention centre.

The proposed convention's organising entity would be **Maa ja ilma ry**, a Finnish non-profit association. As required by the WSFS Constitution, please find attached the rules (in Finnish) under which the association operates. An unofficial English translation of the rules is also included.

If selected, Helsinki in 2017 would be the northernmost Worldcon ever, the first Worldcon in continental Europe since 1990, and the fourth ever held in a country that doesn't hold English as its native tongue. We believe it's time for this, that it's time to put **more world** into Worldcon, and to give European fans a chance to participate in a way we've not been able to before. We believe we're the right choice, and we'll be there at Sasquan to prove our case.

Eemeli Aro
Bid chair, Helsinki in 2017
helsinkiin2017.org