

All's fair at this



year Ex-politician's new colours

City's annual buck last

FRANK LANDRY
City Hall Bureau

Cash-strapped Edmontonians are being promised a bang for their buck this year's Capital EX.

"Last year, our attendance was down slightly, but this year we're pretty much on par with the package together that we'll be putting together," said Mayor Stelmach, president of the non-profit group that hosts the annual festival. With the economic turmoil, Knowles predicts a lot more Edmontonians will be sticking to the city rather than traveling this summer.

"There's an expectation there — stay-cation — the sights and sounds of activities that are in Edmonton," he said. "What we offer is incredible."

Organizers are predicting more Rexall Edmonton fans will race down

Ex-politician's new colours

Former justice minister to showcase photos at Capital EX

ALYSSA NOEL
Sun Media

When Jon Havelock was Alberta's justice minister, he began his day by opening the newspaper and poring over the details of gang and gun violence in the province.

But eight years after leaving politics, his life has taken on a much different focus.

"I absolutely love colour," Havelock said yesterday, standing in front of a wall of his bright, bold photographs hung at his west Edmonton home.

Some of his artwork will be displayed at the upcoming Capital EX. It seemed like the natural next step, he explained, to submit his pieces to a jury process.

"I was thrilled to have been accepted," he said.

While photography has been part of his life in some

form since childhood, once he became a politician, there was no time for hobbies. "Being in politics, it was life-consuming," he recalled. "There was time for little else."

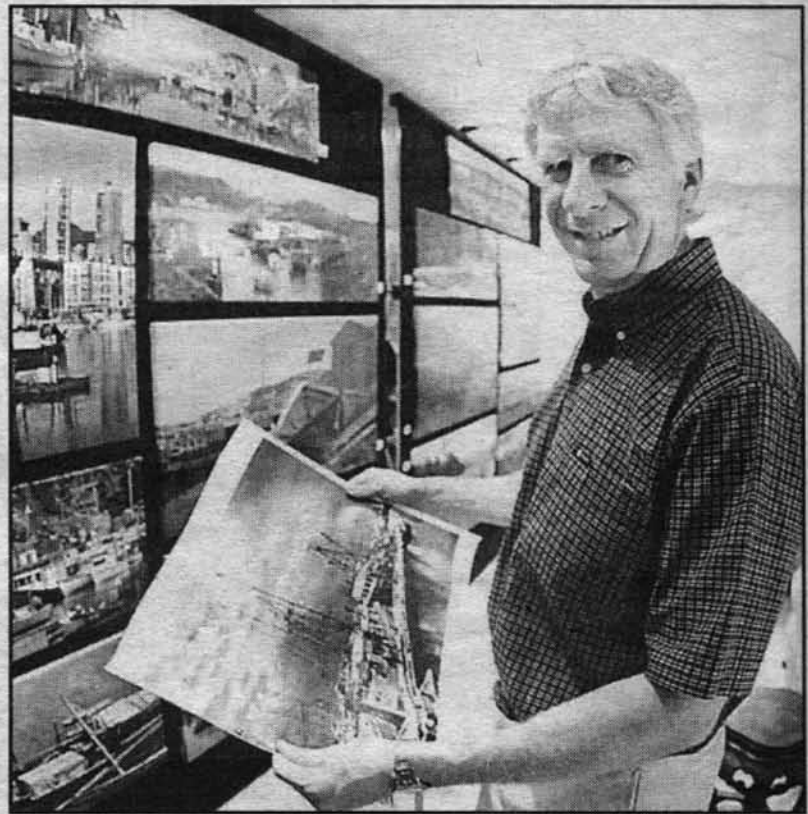
It wasn't until 2007, after his wife Neris bought him the computer program Photoshop to boost his spirits after his father died, that he really delved into the art.

Soon after, he took a photo he had shot of shoreline in Peggy's Cove, N.S. to a framing shop. There he got the push he really needed to take his talent seriously.

An owner and artist — who eventually wound up becoming his mentor — at the shop said he liked it better than some he had taken of the fishing village, Havelock said.

"He said Jon had a good eye," Neris added.

The photos hung around their home — displayed for



PERRY MAH/SUN MEDIA

Jon Havelock holds one of his photos at his home yesterday. Havelock's artwork will be featured at Capital EX.

an upcoming open house for friends and family — serve as much as a personal travelogue as they do art.

The richly saturated pieces look more like paintings than photos, capturing the rocky shores of Canada's East Coast, an upscale yacht club in Vancouver and, Neris's favourite, Kenyans on a shoreline taken during a safari trip to Africa in 2007.

He purposely keeps the pieces moderately priced — with the most expensive

around \$550 — to reach as many people as possible, he explained, even though they can take up to 40 hours to edit.

Havelock is clear about his intentions as an artist: at no point does he plan to make this a full-time, full-blown career.

"The initial goal is for people to be able to enjoy them at a price that's affordable," he said.

alyssa.noel@sunmedia.ca

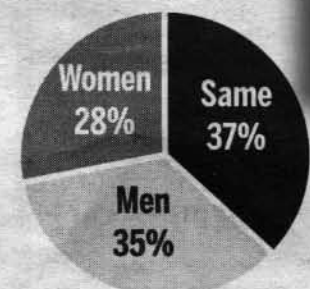
YOUR CHOICE

Edmonton Sun or Today's quest? Will you vote for Capital EX this year?

- Yes
- No

Yesterday's Results

Who are better drivers, young men or young women?



Vote at edmontonsun.com

to July 26. Ride-All-Day Passes go on sale tomorrow for \$38 at Ticketmaster outlets and Save-On-Foods.

The Rexall Edmonton Indy runs July 24 to July 26.

For more information go to www.capitalex.ca

frank.landry@sunmedia.ca

WATCH THE VIDEO
edmontonsun.com/capex

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