# Ontario Sessional Papers

## INTRODUCTION

This finding aid is a guide to using the Sessional Papers of the Province of Ontario from 1867 to the present.

## What Are Sessional Papers?

Sessional Papers are reports and documents which are tabled in the Legislative Assembly during a legislative session. These Papers are produced by the government, by government agencies and by the members of the Assembly for the information of the members. They can include such types of material as departmental and Ministers’ annual reports and financial statements, public accounts, Royal Commission and task force reports, standing and select committee reports, election returns, returns to written questions, petitions and background papers or compendia accompanying Bills.

From 1868/69 to 1948 “printed” Sessional Papers were bound together in a series of volumes entitled Sessional Papers of the Province of Ontario. From 1948 to the present, if printed, they are issued only as separate government publications.

### FINDING SESSIONAL PAPERS

#### First Search BIBLiON

Before doing any further Sessional Paper research, search for the title of the Paper in BIBLiON, the Library catalogue. [Click here to access BIBLiON](http://ao.minisisinc.com/scripts/mwimain.dll/144/ARCH_BIBLIO?DIRECTSEARCH). Many Sessional Papers are also published separately as government publications, including most departmental and Ministers’ annual reports. Request the title as instructed in BIBLiON.

#### Indexes

If the title is not found in BIBLiON, the indexes will have to be consulted. To find a specific Sessional Paper, the year of the legislative session in which the Paper was tabled, and the Sessional Paper number is needed.

#### 1867 to 1927:

Consult the General Index to the Journals and Sessional Papers of the Legislative Assembly, Ontario. These indexes are available via the Reading Room. There are 6 volumes covering the following periods: 1867-1888, 1889-1900, 1901-1912, 1913-1920, 1921-1924, and 1925-1927. [Click here to also access them in electronic format, and on microfilm.](http://www.ontla.on.ca/library/repository/ser/23347/)  See Appendix A for a microfilm reel listing.

#### 1928 to the Present:

After 1927, the Sessional Papers are indexed only in the Journals of the Legislative Assembly. The index is in the front of each Journal volume. For more information about using the Journals, [click here to access Library Finding Aid L 20.](http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/about/library.aspx#finding-aids)

#### Reading the Indexes

Each index volume has 2 indexes. An entry in either section will provide the year the Paper was tabled, and the Sessional Paper number or numbers.

The first index is a subject index to the Journals and includes other material related to the subject of interest, including Sessional Papers. See below on how to read one of these entries. The second index is a Sessional Paper subject index. The entries here are self-explanatory.

##### How to Read an Index Entry From the First Index

Example entry:

“2. Return ordered, of correspondence referring to the widening or deepening of the channel of the River at the outlet of Lake Couchiching, etc. (1882), 30. Presented, 120. *(*Sessional Papers No. 57*.)* Printed.”

* “(1882)” refers to the year of the legislative session in which Sessional Paper no. 57 was tabled. Sessional Paper numbering begins at 1 each legislative session.
* The numbers “30” and “120” refer to page numbers in the volume of the *Journal of the Legislative Assembly* for 1882. The page references are about what happened in the Legislative Assembly relating to the Paper.
* “Printed” means that the Sessional Paper was included in the bound volumes of the Sessional Papers for that Session. Many of these are also separately published government publications.
* “Unprinted” or “Not Printed” means that a particular Paper was not included in the bound Sessional Paper volumes. It will also not be on the microfilm, and it is very unlikely that it was published as a separate government publication. Note: The 1889-1900 General Index sometimes erroneously reports that a Paper is “not printed”. Check also the microfilmed table of contents for the year in question to verify whether a Paper has actually been printed, and therefore appears on the microfilm.

#### Once the Year of the Session and Sessional Paper Number Is Known

##### 1867 to 1923:

Consult the B 97 Self-service microfilm reel listings below to find the correct reel of microfilm.

##### 1924 to 1948:

Available from the Library. Request with the following information:

* Call Number: Govt Doc Leg S
* Title: Ontario Sessional Papers [+ Year]
* Include the Sessional Paper number in the title area of your request.

##### 1948 to the Present:

[Click here to search BIBLiON and see if the Library has a separately published copy of the title or report](http://ao.minisisinc.com/scripts/mwimain.dll/144/ARCH_BIBLIO?DIRECTSEARCH). Individual Sessional Papers can also be found in government record series RG 49-19. [Click here to access series RG 49-19](http://ao.minisisinc.com/scripts/mwimain.dll/144/ARCH_DESC_FACT/FACTSDESC/REFD+RG+49+19?SESSIONSEARCH), or consult with the Archives of Ontario’s Reference staff for more information about using RG 49-19.

##### ‘Unprinted” or “Not Printed” Papers, 1867 to the Present

The individual Sessional Papers are also found in government record series RG 49-19, [which you can access by clicking here](http://ao.minisisinc.com/scripts/mwimain.dll/144/ARCH_DESC_FACT/FACTSDESC/REFD+RG+49+19?SESSIONSEARCH). However, many unprinted Sessional Papers were lost prior to their transfer to the Archives of Ontario. Consult with the Archives of Ontario’s Reference staff for more information about using RG 49-19. “Unprinted” or “Not printed” Sessional Papers have not been microfilmed, nor were they published separately.

##### Interlibrary Loan

This microfilm is not available through interlibrary loan from the Archives of Ontario. Other major academic, public and law school libraries in Canada may have the materials described in this finding aid, including the series of microfilm. Some libraries in the United States, Great Britain and Australia have Ontario Sessional Papers. Check with your local library.

###### ONTARIO SESSIONAL PAPERS, 1867 to 1923

Microfilm Reel Listings

| **Year** | **Parliament &**  **Session** | **Sessional Paper Numbers** | **Reference Code** (Self-Service Microfilm B 97) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Sessional tables of contents and indexes for 1868/69 to 1902.**  (Access bound indexes via the Reading Room or [click here to access them in electronic format](http://www.ontla.on.ca/library/repository/ser/23347/).) | Reel 1 |
|  |  | **Sessional tables of contents and indexes for 1903 to 1923.**  (Access bound indexes via the Reading Room or [click here to access them in electronic format](http://www.ontla.on.ca/library/repository/ser/23347/).) | Reel 179 (at end of reel) |
| **1867/68** | 1st Parliament, 1st Session | In: Journals of the Legislative Assembly, 1867/68. (Vol. 1)  ([Click here to access them in electronic format](http://www.ontla.on.ca/library/repository/ser/23347/).) | Self-Service  Microfilm B 41b  Reel 1 |
| **1868-1869** | 1st Parliament, 2nd Session | Paper no. 1 to no. 37 | Reel 1 |
| **1869** | 1st Parliament, 3rd Session | Paper no. 1 to no. 52 | Reel 2 |
| **1870/71** | 1st Parliament, 4th Session | Paper no. 1 to no. 3  Paper no. 4 to no. 48 | Reel 2  Reel 3 |
| **1871/72** | 2nd Parliament, 1st Session | To paper no. 5, p.216  Paper no. 5, p.217 to no. 58 | Reel 3  Reel 4 |
| **1873** | 2nd Parliament, 2nd Session | To Paper no. 4  Paper no. 5 to no. 22  Paper no.23 to no. 84 | Reel 4  Reel 5  Reel 6 |
| **1874** | 2nd Parliament, 3rd Session | To Paper no. 5  Paper no. 6 to no. 7 | Reel 6  Reel 7 |
| **1874** | 3rd Parliament, 4th Session | To Paper no. 7  Paper no. 8 to no. 26 | Reel 7  Reel 8 |
| **1875/76** | 3rd Parliament,  1st Session | To Paper no. 32  Paper no. 33 to no. 60 | Reel 8  Reel 9 |
| **1877** | 3rd Parliament, 2nd Session | To Paper no. 23  Paper no. 24 to no. 56 | Reel 9  Reel 10 |
| **1878** | 3rd Parliament, 3rd Session | To Paper no. 3  Paper no. 4 to no. 45 | Reel 10  Reel 11 |
| **1879** | 3rd Parliament, 4th Session | To Paper no. 1, p.29  Paper no. 1, p. 29 to no. 21  Paper no. 22 to no. 84 | Reel 11  Reel 12  Reel 13 |
| **1880** | 4th Parliament, 1st Session | To Paper no. 5, p.25  Paper no. 5 to no. 73 | Reel 13  Reel 14 |
| **1881** | 4th Parliament, 2nd Session | To Paper no. 2  Paper no. 3 to no. 20  Paper no. 21 to no. 55 | Reel 14  Reel 15  Reel 16 |
| **1882** | 4th Parliament, 3rd Session | To Paper no. 5, p. 248  Paper no. 5, p. 249 to no. 68  Paper no. 69 | Reel 16  Reel 17  Reel 18 |
| **1882/83** | 4th Parliament, 4th Session | To Paper no. 4  Paper no. 5 to no. 52  Paper no. 53 to no. 66 | Reel 18  Reel 19  Reel 20 |
| **1884** | 5th Parliament, 1st Session | To Paper no. 8  Paper no. 9 to no. 45  Paper no. 46 to no. 112 | Reel 20  Reel 21  Reel 22 |
| **1885** | 5th Parliament, 2nd Session | To Paper no. 6  Paper no. 7 to no. 15  Paper no. 16 to no. 70  Paper no. 73 to no. 92 | Reel 22  Reel 23  Reel 24  Reel 25 |
| **1886** | 5th Parliament, 3rd Session | To Paper no. 8  Paper no. 9 to no. 33  Paper no. 34 to no. 88 | Reel 25  Reel 26  Reel 27 |
| **1887** | 1st Session,  6th Parliament | To Paper no.6  Paper no. 7 to no. 22  Paper no. 23 to no. 71 | Reel 27  Reel 28  Reel 29 |
| **1888** | 6th Parliament, 2nd Session | To Paper no. 3, p.33  Paper no.3, p.34 to no. 15  Paper no. 16 to no. 75  Paper no. 76 to no. 82 | Reel 29  Reel 30  Reel 31  Reel 32 |
| **1889** | 6th Parliament, 3rd Session | To Paper no. 9  Paper no. 10 to no. 21  Paper no. 22 to no. 70  Paper no. 71 to no. 78 | Reel 32  Reel 33  Reel 34  Reel 35 |
| **1890** | 6th Parliament, 4th Session | To Paper no. 6  Paper no. 7 to no. 23  Paper no. 24 to no. 87 | Reel 35  Reel 36  Reel 37 |
| **1891** | 7th Parliament, 1st Session | Paper no. 1  Paper no. 2 to no. 15  Paper no. 16 to no. 45  Paper no. 46 to no. 68 | Reel 37  Reel 38  Reel 39  Reel 40 |
| **1892** | 7th Parliament, 2nd Session | To Paper no. 11  Paper no. 12 to no. 24  Paper no. 25 to Bureau of Industry  Bureau of Industry, p. 61 to  Sheep Breeders’ Association | Reel 40  Reel 41  Reel 42  Reel 43 |
| **1893** | 7th Parliament, 3rd Session | To Paper no. 8  Paper no. 9 to no. 21  Paper no. 22 to no. 84  Paper no. 85 to no. 93 | Reel 43  Reel 44  Reel 45  Reel 46 |
| **1894** | 7th Parliament, 4th Session | To Paper no. 12  Paper no. 13 to no. 31  Paper no. 32 to no. 44, p.30  Paper no. 44, p. 31 to no. 130 | Reel 46  Reel 47  Reel 48  Reel 49 |
| **1895** | 8th Parliament, 1st Session | To Paper no. 3  Paper no. 4 to no. 16  Paper no. 17 to no. 28  Paper no. 29 to no. 67  Paper no. 68 to no. 77 | Reel 49  Reel 50  Reel 51  Reel 52  Reel 53 |
| **1896** | 8th Parliament, 2nd Session | To Paper no. 3  Paper no. 4 to no. 17  Paper no.18 to no. 29  Paper no. 30 to no. 61  Paper no. 62 to no. 81 | Reel 53  Reel 54  Reel 55  Reel 56  Reel 57 |
| **1897** | 8th Parliament, 3rd Session | To Paper no. 9  Paper no. 10 to no. 21  Paper no. 22 to no. 34  Paper no. 35 to no. 73 | Reel 57  Reel 58  Reel 59  Reel 60 |
| **1897/98** | 8th Parliament, 4th Session | To Paper no. 3  Paper no. 4 to no. 16  Paper no. 17 to no. 26, p. 139  Paper no. 26, p.140 to no. 35  Paper no. 36 to no. 66 | Reel 60  Reel 61  Reel 62  Reel 63  Reel 64 |
| **1898/99** | 9th Parliament,  1st and 2nd Sessions | To Paper no. 2  Paper no. 3 to no. 11  Paper no. 12 to no. 25  Paper no.26 to no. 37  Paper no. 38 to no. 81 | Reel 64  Reel 65  Reel 66  Reel 67  Reel 68 |
| **1900** | 9th Parliament, 3rd Session | Paper no. 1 to no. 10  Paper no. 11 to no. 23  Paper no. 24 to no. 84 | Reel 69  Reel 70  Reel 71 |
| **1901** | 9th Parliament, 4th Session | Paper no. 1 to no. 10  Paper no. 11 to no. 24  Paper no. 25 to no. 44  Paper no. 46 to no. 79 | Reel 72  Reel 73  Reel 74  Reel 75 |
| **1902** | 9th Parliament, 5th Session | To Paper no. 6  Paper no. 7 to no. 14  Paper no. 15 to no. 29  Paper no. 30 to no. 71 | Reel 75  Reel 76  Reel 77  Reel 78 |
| **1903** | 10th Parliament, 1st Session | Index for papers 1903 to 1910, and  Paper no. 1 to part of no. 11  Paper no. 11 (completed) to no. 26  Paper no. 27 to no. 50  Paper no. 51 to no. 79 | Reel 79  Reel 80  Reel 81  Reel 82 |
| **1904** | 10th Parliament, 2nd Session | Paper no. 1 to no. 5, Pt.11  Paper no. 6 to no. 16 (in part)  Paper no. 16 (completed) to no. 41  Paper no. 42 to no. 94 | Reel 82  Reel 83  Reel 84  Reel 85 |
| **1905** | 11th Parliament, 1st Session, | Paper no. 1 to part of no. 5  Paper no. 5 (completed) to part of no. 11  Paper no. 11 (completed) to no. 24  Paper no. 25 to no. 38  Paper no. 39 to part of no. 49  Paper no. 49 (completed) to no. 61 | Reel 85  Reel 86  Reel 87  Reel 88  Reel 89  Reel 90 |
| **1906** | 11th Parliament, 2nd Session | Paper no. 1 to no. 5  Paper no. 6 part of no. 12  Paper no. 12 (completed) to part of no. 25  Paper no. 25 (completed) to no. 40  Paper no. 41 to no. 80 | Reel 90  Reel 91  Reel 92  Reel 93  Reel 94 |
| **1907** | 11th Parliament, 3rd Session | Paper no. 1 to part of no. 10  Paper no. 10 (completed) to no. 14  Paper no. 15 to part of no. 30  Paper no. 30 (completed) to part of no. 43 *(Note: 43 is misnumbered 42)*  Paper no. 43 (completed) no. 71 | Reel 95  Reel 96  Reel 97  Reel 98  Reel 99 |
| **1908** | 11th Parliament, 4th Session | Paper no. 11  Paper no. 2 to part of no. 10  Paper no. 10 (completed) to no. 12  Paper no. 13 to no. 29  Paper no.30 to no. 43  Paper no. 22 to no. 78 | Reel 99  Reel 100  Reel 101  Reel 102  Reel 103  Reel 104 |
| **1909** | 12th Parliament, 1st Session | Paper no. 1 to no. 41  Paper no. 5 to no. 10 *(Note: film of no. 10 lacks p. 6-9)*  Paper no. 11 to no. 20  Paper no. 21 to no. 33  Paper no.35 to no. 68  (Paper no. 34 missing film) | Reel 104  Reel 105  Reel 106  Reel 107  Reel 108 |
| **1910** | 12th Parliament, 2nd Session | Paper no. 1 (to p.186)  Paper no. 1 (completed) to no. 10  Paper no. 11 to no. 19  Paper no. 20 to no. 36  Paper no. 37 to no. 47  Paper no. 49 to no. 57 | Reel 108  Reel 109  Reel 110  Reel 111  Reel 112  Reel 113 |
| **1911** | 12th Parliament, 3rd Session | Paper no. 1 to no. 9  Paper no. 10 to no. 15  Paper no. 16 to no. 23  Paper no. 24 part of no. 39  Paper no. 39 (completed) to no. 53  Paper no. 54 to no. 73 | Reel 114  Reel 115  Reel 116  Reel 117  Reel 118  Reel 119 |
| **1912** | 13th Parliament, 1st Session | Paper no. 1 to part of no. 4  Paper no. 4 (completed) to no. 12  Paper no. 13 to no. 10  Paper no. 20 to part of no. 38  Paper no. 38 (completed) to part of no. 47  Paper no. 47 (completed) to part of no. 65  Paper no. 65 (completed) to no. 71 | Reel 119  Reel 120  Reel 121  Reel 122  Reel 123  Reel 124  Reel 125 |
| **1913** | 13th Parliament, 2nd Session | Paper no. 1 to no. 4  Paper no. 5 to no. 13  Paper no. 14 to part of no. 19  Paper no. 19 (completed) to no. 31  Paper no. 32 to no. 46  Paper no. 47 to no. 80 | Reel 125  Reel 126  Reel 127  Reel 128  Reel 129  Reel 130 |
| **1914** | 13th Parliament, 3rd Session | Paper no.1 ( in part )  Paper no. 1 (completed) to no. 10  Paper no. 11 to part of no. 17  Paper no. 17 (completed) to no. 22  Paper no. 23 to no. 40  Paper no. 41 to no. 49  Paper no. 50 to no. 104 | Reel 130  Reel 131  Reel 132  Reel 133  Reel 134  Reel 135  Reel 136 |
| **1915** | 14th Parliament, 1st Session | Paper no. 1 to part of no. 2  Paper no. 2 (completed) to no. 10  Paper no. 11 to part of no.17  Paper no.17 (completed) to no.24  Paper no. 25 to no. 44  Paper no. 45 to no. 49  Paper no. 50 to no. 76 | Reel 136  Reel 137  Reel 138  Reel 139  Reel 140  Reel 141  Reel 142 |
| **1916** | 14th Parliament, 2nd Session | Paper no. 1  Paper no. 2 to no. 10  Paper no. 11 to no. 18  Paper no.19 to no.36  Paper no.37 to no. 48  Paper no. 49 to no. 89 | Reel 142  Reel 143  Reel 144  Reel 145  Reel 146  Reel 147 |
| **1917** | 14th Parliament, 3rd Session | Paper no. 1 (to p.351)  Paper no. 1 (completed) to no. 10  Paper no. 11 to no. 20  Paper no. 21 to no. 41  Paper no. 42 to part of no. 49  Paper no. 49 (completed) to no. 83 | Reel 147  Reel 148  Reel 149  Reel 150  Reel 151  Reel 152 |
| **1918** | 14th Parliament, 4th Session | Paper no. 1 (to p. 353)  Paper no. 1 (completed) to part of no. 10  Paper no. 10 (completed) to part of no. 20  Paper no. 20 (completed) to part of no, 41  Paper no. 41 (completed) to no. 50  Paper no. 52 to no. 79 | Reel 152  Reel 153  Reel 154  Reel 155  Reel 156  Reel 157 |
| **1919** | 14th Parliament, 5th Session | Paper no. 1 to no. 2  Paper no. 3 to part of no. 15  Paper no. 15 (completed) to no. 29  Paper no. 30 to part of no. 49  Paper no. 49 (completed) no. 58  Paper no. 65 to no. 72 | Reel 157  Reel 158  Reel 159  Reel 160  Reel 161  Reel 162 |
| **1920** | 15th Parliament, 1st Session | Paper no. 1 to part of no. 4  Paper no.4 (completed) to no. 16  Paper no. 17 to no. 26  Paper no. 28 to part of no. 49  Paper no. 49 (completed) to part of no.68  Paper no. 68 (completed) to no. 79  *(Note: no. 66 follows no. 79 on Reel 167)* | Reel 162  Reel 163  Reel 164  Reel 165  Reel 166  Reel 167 |
| **1921** | 15th Parliament, 2nd Session | Paper no 1 to part of no. 4  Paper no. 4 (completed) no. 16  Paper no. 17 to no. 32  Paper no. 33 to no. 54  Paper no. 44 to no. 89 | Reel 167  Reel 168  Reel 169  Reel 170  Reel 171 |
| **1922** | 15th Parliament, 3rd Session | Paper no. 1 to part of no. 4  Paper no. 4 (completed) to no. 12  Paper no. 13 to no. 21  Paper no. 22 to part of no. 49  Paper no. 49 (completed) to no. 96 | Reel 171  Reel 172  Reel 173  Reel 174  Reel 175 |
| **1923** | 15th Parliament, 4th Session | Paper no. 1 (in part)  Paper no. 1 (completed) to no. 11  Paper no. 12 to part of no. 21  Paper no. 21 (completed) to part of no. 49 Paper no. 49 (completed) to no. 98  Index to papers for 1903 to 1923 | Reel 175  Reel 176  Reel 177  Reel 178  Reel 179  Reel 179 |

To find Sessional Papers after 1923, follow the instructions in the introduction.

###### General Indexes to Journals and Sessional Papers, 1867 to 1927

Microfilm Reel Listings

APPENDIX A

| **Title** | **Reference Code** |
| --- | --- |
| **General Index to the Journals and Sessional Papers of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario 1867/68 to 1888.**  (Access bound indexes via the Reading Room or [click here to access them in electronic format](http://www.ontla.on.ca/library/repository/ser/23347/)). Note:The General Index is the 2nd item on B 57 Reel 14 | Self-Service Microfilm B 57  Reel 14 |
| **General Index to the Journals and Sessional Papers of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario 1889 to 1900.**  (Access bound indexes via the Reading Room or [click here to access them in electronic format](http://www.ontla.on.ca/library/repository/ser/23347/)). Note: The 1889-1900 General Index sometimes erroneously reports that a paper is “not printed”. Check also the Table of Contents of the Sessional Papers volume for the year in question to verify whether a paper has actually been printed, and therefore appears on the microfilm. | Self-Service Microfilm B 57  Reel 15 |
| **General Index to the Journals and Sessional Papers...1901 to 1912.**  (Access bound indexes via the Reading Room or [click here to access them in electronic format](http://www.ontla.on.ca/library/repository/ser/23347/).) | Self-Service Microfilm B 57  Reel 15 |
| **General Index to the Journals and Sessional Papers... 1913 to 1920 includes Index to Debates 1906 to 1920.**  (Access bound indexes via the Reading Room or [click here to access them in electronic format](http://www.ontla.on.ca/library/repository/ser/23347/).) | Self-Service Microfilm B 57  Reel 15 |
| **General Index to the Journals and Sessional Papers of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario including Index to Debates 1921 to 1924.**  (Access bound indexes via the Reading Room or [click here to access them in electronic format](http://www.ontla.on.ca/library/repository/ser/23347/).) | Self-Service Microfilm B 57  Reel 16 |
| **General Index to the Journals and Sessional Papers... including Index to Debates 1925 to 1927.**  (Access bound indexes via the Reading Room or [click here to access them in electronic format](http://www.ontla.on.ca/library/repository/ser/23347/).) | Self-Service Microfilm B 57  Reel 16 |