# 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%2BRG%2B49%2B19?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%2BRG%2B49%2B19?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 41bReel 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. 3Paper no. 4 to no. 48 | Reel 2Reel 3 |
| **1871/72** | 2nd Parliament, 1st Session | To paper no. 5, p.216Paper no. 5, p.217 to no. 58 | Reel 3Reel 4 |
| **1873** | 2nd Parliament, 2nd Session | To Paper no. 4Paper no. 5 to no. 22Paper no.23 to no. 84 | Reel 4Reel 5Reel 6 |
| **1874** | 2nd Parliament, 3rd Session | To Paper no. 5Paper no. 6 to no. 7 | Reel 6Reel 7 |
| **1874** | 3rd Parliament, 4th Session | To Paper no. 7Paper no. 8 to no. 26 | Reel 7Reel 8 |
| **1875/76** | 3rd Parliament,1st Session | To Paper no. 32Paper no. 33 to no. 60 | Reel 8Reel 9 |
| **1877** | 3rd Parliament, 2nd Session  | To Paper no. 23Paper no. 24 to no. 56 | Reel 9Reel 10 |
| **1878** | 3rd Parliament, 3rd Session | To Paper no. 3Paper no. 4 to no. 45 | Reel 10Reel 11 |
| **1879** | 3rd Parliament, 4th Session | To Paper no. 1, p.29Paper no. 1, p. 29 to no. 21Paper no. 22 to no. 84 | Reel 11Reel 12Reel 13 |
| **1880** | 4th Parliament, 1st Session | To Paper no. 5, p.25Paper no. 5 to no. 73 | Reel 13Reel 14 |
| **1881** | 4th Parliament, 2nd Session | To Paper no. 2Paper no. 3 to no. 20Paper no. 21 to no. 55 | Reel 14Reel 15Reel 16 |
| **1882** | 4th Parliament, 3rd Session | To Paper no. 5, p. 248Paper no. 5, p. 249 to no. 68Paper no. 69 | Reel 16Reel 17Reel 18 |
| **1882/83** | 4th Parliament, 4th Session | To Paper no. 4Paper no. 5 to no. 52Paper no. 53 to no. 66 | Reel 18Reel 19Reel 20 |
| **1884** | 5th Parliament, 1st Session | To Paper no. 8Paper no. 9 to no. 45Paper no. 46 to no. 112 | Reel 20Reel 21Reel 22 |
| **1885** | 5th Parliament, 2nd Session | To Paper no. 6Paper no. 7 to no. 15Paper no. 16 to no. 70Paper no. 73 to no. 92 | Reel 22Reel 23Reel 24Reel 25 |
| **1886** | 5th Parliament, 3rd Session | To Paper no. 8Paper no. 9 to no. 33Paper no. 34 to no. 88 | Reel 25Reel 26Reel 27 |
| **1887** | 1st Session, 6th Parliament | To Paper no.6Paper no. 7 to no. 22Paper no. 23 to no. 71 | Reel 27Reel 28Reel 29 |
| **1888** | 6th Parliament, 2nd Session | To Paper no. 3, p.33Paper no.3, p.34 to no. 15Paper no. 16 to no. 75Paper no. 76 to no. 82 | Reel 29Reel 30Reel 31Reel 32 |
| **1889** | 6th Parliament, 3rd Session | To Paper no. 9Paper no. 10 to no. 21Paper no. 22 to no. 70Paper no. 71 to no. 78 | Reel 32Reel 33Reel 34Reel 35 |
| **1890** | 6th Parliament, 4th Session | To Paper no. 6Paper no. 7 to no. 23Paper no. 24 to no. 87 | Reel 35Reel 36Reel 37 |
| **1891** | 7th Parliament, 1st Session | Paper no. 1Paper no. 2 to no. 15Paper no. 16 to no. 45Paper no. 46 to no. 68 | Reel 37Reel 38Reel 39Reel 40 |
| **1892** | 7th Parliament, 2nd Session | To Paper no. 11Paper no. 12 to no. 24Paper no. 25 to Bureau of IndustryBureau of Industry, p. 61 toSheep Breeders’ Association | Reel 40 Reel 41Reel 42Reel 43 |
| **1893** | 7th Parliament, 3rd Session | To Paper no. 8Paper no. 9 to no. 21Paper no. 22 to no. 84Paper no. 85 to no. 93 | Reel 43Reel 44Reel 45Reel 46 |
| **1894** | 7th Parliament, 4th Session | To Paper no. 12Paper no. 13 to no. 31Paper no. 32 to no. 44, p.30Paper no. 44, p. 31 to no. 130 | Reel 46Reel 47Reel 48Reel 49 |
| **1895** | 8th Parliament, 1st Session | To Paper no. 3Paper no. 4 to no. 16Paper no. 17 to no. 28Paper no. 29 to no. 67Paper no. 68 to no. 77 | Reel 49Reel 50Reel 51Reel 52Reel 53 |
| **1896** | 8th Parliament, 2nd Session | To Paper no. 3Paper no. 4 to no. 17Paper no.18 to no. 29Paper no. 30 to no. 61Paper no. 62 to no. 81 | Reel 53Reel 54Reel 55Reel 56Reel 57 |
| **1897** | 8th Parliament, 3rd Session | To Paper no. 9Paper no. 10 to no. 21Paper no. 22 to no. 34Paper no. 35 to no. 73 | Reel 57Reel 58Reel 59Reel 60 |
| **1897/98** | 8th Parliament, 4th Session | To Paper no. 3Paper no. 4 to no. 16Paper no. 17 to no. 26, p. 139Paper no. 26, p.140 to no. 35Paper no. 36 to no. 66 | Reel 60Reel 61Reel 62Reel 63Reel 64 |
| **1898/99** | 9th Parliament,1st and 2nd Sessions | To Paper no. 2Paper no. 3 to no. 11Paper no. 12 to no. 25Paper no.26 to no. 37Paper no. 38 to no. 81 | Reel 64Reel 65Reel 66Reel 67Reel 68 |
| **1900** | 9th Parliament, 3rd Session | Paper no. 1 to no. 10Paper no. 11 to no. 23Paper no. 24 to no. 84 | Reel 69Reel 70 Reel 71 |
| **1901** | 9th Parliament, 4th Session | Paper no. 1 to no. 10Paper no. 11 to no. 24Paper no. 25 to no. 44Paper no. 46 to no. 79 | Reel 72Reel 73Reel 74Reel 75 |
| **1902** | 9th Parliament, 5th Session | To Paper no. 6Paper no. 7 to no. 14Paper no. 15 to no. 29Paper no. 30 to no. 71 | Reel 75Reel 76Reel 77Reel 78 |
| **1903** | 10th Parliament, 1st Session | Index for papers 1903 to 1910, and Paper no. 1 to part of no. 11Paper no. 11 (completed) to no. 26Paper no. 27 to no. 50Paper no. 51 to no. 79 | Reel 79Reel 80Reel 81Reel 82 |
| **1904** | 10th Parliament, 2nd Session | Paper no. 1 to no. 5, Pt.11Paper no. 6 to no. 16 (in part)Paper no. 16 (completed) to no. 41Paper no. 42 to no. 94 | Reel 82Reel 83Reel 84Reel 85 |
| **1905** | 11th Parliament, 1st Session,  | Paper no. 1 to part of no. 5Paper no. 5 (completed) to part of no. 11Paper no. 11 (completed) to no. 24Paper no. 25 to no. 38Paper no. 39 to part of no. 49Paper no. 49 (completed) to no. 61 | Reel 85Reel 86Reel 87Reel 88Reel 89Reel 90 |
| **1906** | 11th Parliament, 2nd Session | Paper no. 1 to no. 5Paper no. 6 part of no. 12Paper no. 12 (completed) to part of no. 25Paper no. 25 (completed) to no. 40Paper no. 41 to no. 80 | Reel 90Reel 91Reel 92Reel 93Reel 94 |
| **1907** | 11th Parliament, 3rd Session | Paper no. 1 to part of no. 10Paper no. 10 (completed) to no. 14Paper no. 15 to part of no. 30Paper no. 30 (completed) to part of no. 43 *(Note: 43 is misnumbered 42)*Paper no. 43 (completed) no. 71 | Reel 95Reel 96Reel 97Reel 98Reel 99 |
| **1908** | 11th Parliament, 4th Session | Paper no. 11Paper no. 2 to part of no. 10Paper no. 10 (completed) to no. 12Paper no. 13 to no. 29Paper no.30 to no. 43Paper no. 22 to no. 78 | Reel 99Reel 100Reel 101Reel 102Reel 103Reel 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. 20Paper no. 21 to no. 33Paper no.35 to no. 68(Paper no. 34 missing film)  | Reel 104Reel 105Reel 106Reel 107Reel 108 |
| **1910** | 12th Parliament, 2nd Session | Paper no. 1 (to p.186)Paper no. 1 (completed) to no. 10Paper no. 11 to no. 19Paper no. 20 to no. 36Paper no. 37 to no. 47Paper no. 49 to no. 57 | Reel 108Reel 109Reel 110Reel 111Reel 112Reel 113 |
| **1911** | 12th Parliament, 3rd Session | Paper no. 1 to no. 9Paper no. 10 to no. 15Paper no. 16 to no. 23Paper no. 24 part of no. 39Paper no. 39 (completed) to no. 53Paper no. 54 to no. 73 | Reel 114Reel 115Reel 116Reel 117Reel 118Reel 119 |
| **1912** | 13th Parliament, 1st Session | Paper no. 1 to part of no. 4Paper no. 4 (completed) to no. 12Paper no. 13 to no. 10Paper no. 20 to part of no. 38Paper no. 38 (completed) to part of no. 47Paper no. 47 (completed) to part of no. 65Paper no. 65 (completed) to no. 71 | Reel 119Reel 120Reel 121Reel 122Reel 123Reel 124Reel 125 |
| **1913** | 13th Parliament, 2nd Session | Paper no. 1 to no. 4Paper no. 5 to no. 13Paper no. 14 to part of no. 19Paper no. 19 (completed) to no. 31Paper no. 32 to no. 46Paper no. 47 to no. 80 | Reel 125Reel 126Reel 127Reel 128Reel 129Reel 130 |
| **1914** | 13th Parliament, 3rd Session | Paper no.1 ( in part )Paper no. 1 (completed) to no. 10Paper no. 11 to part of no. 17Paper no. 17 (completed) to no. 22Paper no. 23 to no. 40Paper no. 41 to no. 49Paper no. 50 to no. 104 | Reel 130Reel 131Reel 132Reel 133Reel 134Reel 135Reel 136 |
| **1915** | 14th Parliament, 1st Session | Paper no. 1 to part of no. 2Paper no. 2 (completed) to no. 10Paper no. 11 to part of no.17Paper no.17 (completed) to no.24Paper no. 25 to no. 44Paper no. 45 to no. 49Paper no. 50 to no. 76 | Reel 136Reel 137Reel 138Reel 139Reel 140Reel 141Reel 142 |
| **1916** | 14th Parliament, 2nd Session | Paper no. 1Paper no. 2 to no. 10Paper no. 11 to no. 18Paper no.19 to no.36Paper no.37 to no. 48Paper no. 49 to no. 89 | Reel 142Reel 143Reel 144Reel 145Reel 146Reel 147 |
| **1917** | 14th Parliament, 3rd Session | Paper no. 1 (to p.351)Paper no. 1 (completed) to no. 10Paper no. 11 to no. 20Paper no. 21 to no. 41Paper no. 42 to part of no. 49Paper no. 49 (completed) to no. 83 | Reel 147Reel 148Reel 149Reel 150 Reel 151Reel 152 |
| **1918** | 14th Parliament, 4th Session | Paper no. 1 (to p. 353)Paper no. 1 (completed) to part of no. 10Paper no. 10 (completed) to part of no. 20Paper no. 20 (completed) to part of no, 41Paper no. 41 (completed) to no. 50Paper no. 52 to no. 79 | Reel 152Reel 153Reel 154Reel 155Reel 156Reel 157 |
| **1919** | 14th Parliament, 5th Session | Paper no. 1 to no. 2Paper no. 3 to part of no. 15Paper no. 15 (completed) to no. 29Paper no. 30 to part of no. 49Paper no. 49 (completed) no. 58Paper no. 65 to no. 72 | Reel 157Reel 158Reel 159Reel 160Reel 161Reel 162 |
| **1920** | 15th Parliament, 1st Session | Paper no. 1 to part of no. 4Paper no.4 (completed) to no. 16Paper no. 17 to no. 26Paper no. 28 to part of no. 49Paper no. 49 (completed) to part of no.68Paper no. 68 (completed) to no. 79*(Note: no. 66 follows no. 79 on Reel 167)* | Reel 162Reel 163Reel 164Reel 165Reel 166Reel 167 |
| **1921** | 15th Parliament, 2nd Session | Paper no 1 to part of no. 4Paper no. 4 (completed) no. 16 Paper no. 17 to no. 32Paper no. 33 to no. 54Paper no. 44 to no. 89 | Reel 167Reel 168Reel 169Reel 170Reel 171 |
| **1922** | 15th Parliament, 3rd Session | Paper no. 1 to part of no. 4Paper no. 4 (completed) to no. 12Paper no. 13 to no. 21Paper no. 22 to part of no. 49Paper no. 49 (completed) to no. 96 | Reel 171Reel 172Reel 173Reel 174Reel 175 |
| **1923** | 15th Parliament, 4th Session | Paper no. 1 (in part)Paper no. 1 (completed) to no. 11Paper no. 12 to part of no. 21Paper no. 21 (completed) to part of no. 49 Paper no. 49 (completed) to no. 98Index to papers for 1903 to 1923 | Reel 175Reel 176Reel 177Reel 178Reel 179Reel 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 57Reel 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 57Reel 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 57Reel 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 57Reel 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 57Reel 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 57Reel 16 |