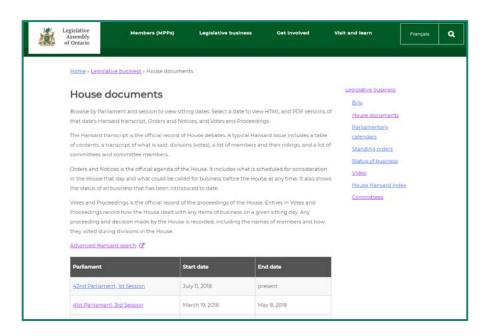
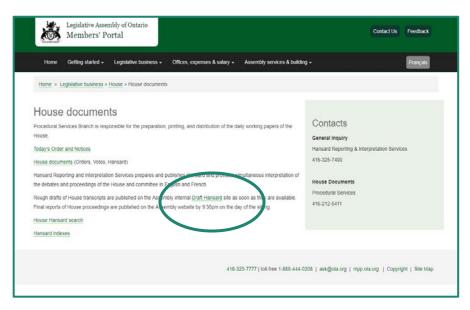
Training Handouts:

Searching Hansard

This handout provides a few tips on where you can find the debates of the House (Hansard) from online sources. However, where appropriate, references will also be made to the Library's Hansard collection in print and microform formats.



To find House Hansard on the Assembly's website, click on Legislative Business and then click House Documents. To find Committee Transcripts, click on Committees under Legislative Business. Instant/Draft Hansard is available through the Member's Portal (see below).



Legislative Library and Research Services

Definition

Hansard is the substantial verbatim record of daily proceedings of the House and its Committees.

Types of Hansard

Instant Draft

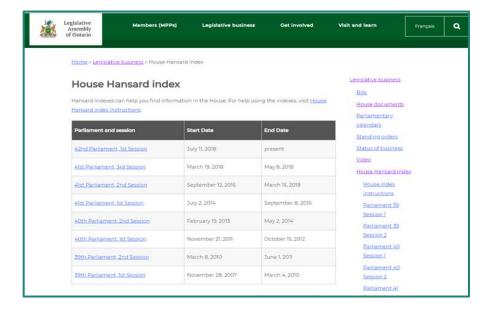
- Is available through the Member's Portal and the Assembly Intranet
- About 1 hour time lag for House Hansard
- No specific time lag for Committee Hansard
- When the House is in session, House Hansard takes precedence

House

- Available electronically on the Assembly website going back to October 1975
- 1945-1980 is available through the Internet Archive [go to https://archive.org, use search terms "Official report of debates (Hansard)"]

Committee Transcripts

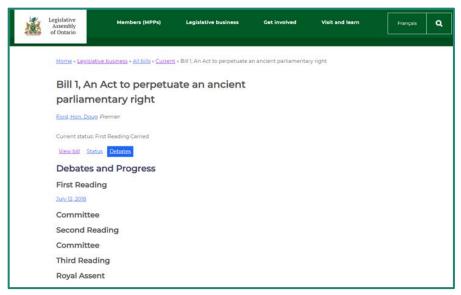
- Available electronically on Assembly website going back to 1990
- Committee Hansard is listed by parliament and then alphabetically by committee name
- HTML and PDF versions are available for more recent years (HTML only for earlier years)



Tip: Print versions of House and Committee Hansard Debates and Indexes are available in the Library.



Tip: Searching by Topic searches the headings assigned by the Hansard editors, not words spoken in the house.



Indexes (House and Committee)

Current Session

- Draft House and Committee indexes (Subject or Speaker) are available on the Assembly website
- House index usually has a skeletal entry added within 48 hours (check last modified date)
- Page number references to debates are hyperlinked
- Can target types of business, such as oral questions or petitions, in the Speaker index

Previous Sessions

- Previous House and Committee indexes
- go back to Oct. 2007 (39th Parl., 1st Sess.) on the Assembly website
- Page numbers for these indexes are hyperlinked

Advanced Searching

- Search engine for House Hansard only (can try to search Committee Hansard using Google)
- Search fields include—keyword, session, date, range, type of business, topic and speaker
- Search syntax-phrase searching"".
 Truncation*, case insensitive, search with and without punctuation,
 Boolean operators AND, OR, NOT,
 NEAR-within 50 words of each search term

Bill-Specific Hansard

If you are looking for the debates for a specific bill:

 On the Assembly website, go to the webpage for the Bill and click on the Debates tab