

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.

Legislative Assembly of Ontario

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House documents

Browse by Parliament and session to view sitting dates. Select a date to view HTML and PDF versions of that date's Hansard transcript, Orders and Notices, and Votes and Proceedings.

The Hansard transcript is the official record of House debates. A typical Hansard issue includes a table of contents, a transcript of what is said, divisions (votes), a list of members and their ridings, and a list of committees and committee members.

Orders and Notices is the official agenda of the House. It includes what is scheduled for consideration in the House that day and what could be called for business before the House at any time. It also shows the status of all business that has been introduced to date.

Votes and Proceedings is the official record of the proceedings of the House. Entries in Votes and Proceedings record how the House dealt with any items of business on a given sitting day. Any proceeding and decision made by the House is recorded, including the names of members and how they voted during divisions in the House.

[Advanced Hansard search](#)

Parliament	Start date	End date
42nd Parliament, 1st Session	July 11, 2018	present
41st Parliament, 3rd Session	March 19, 2018	May 8, 2018

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 Assembly of Ontario Members' Portal

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House documents

Procedural Services Branch is responsible for the preparation, printing, and distribution of the daily working papers of the House.

[Today's Order and Notices](#)

[House documents \(Orders, Votes, Hansard\)](#)

Hansard Reporting and Interpretation Services prepares and publishes Hansard and provides simultaneous interpretation of the debates and proceedings of the House and committee in English and French.

Rough drafts of House transcripts are published on the Assembly internal [Draft Hansard](#) site as soon as they are available. Final reports of House proceedings are published on the Assembly website by 9:30pm on the day of the sitting.

[House Hansard search](#)

[Hansard indexes](#)

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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)

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Home » [Legislative business](#) » House Hansard index

House Hansard index

Hansard indexes can help you find information in the House. For help using the indexes, visit [House Hansard index instructions](#).

Parliament and session	Start Date	End Date
42nd Parliament, 1st Session	July 11, 2018	present
41st Parliament, 3rd Session	March 19, 2018	May 8, 2018
41st Parliament, 2nd Session	September 12, 2016	March 15, 2018
41st Parliament, 1st Session	July 2, 2014	September 8, 2016
40th Parliament, 2nd Session	February 19, 2013	May 2, 2014
40th Parliament, 1st Session	November 21, 2011	October 15, 2012
39th Parliament, 2nd Session	March 8, 2010	June 1, 2011
39th Parliament, 1st Session	November 28, 2007	March 4, 2010

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[House index instructions](#)
[Parliament 39 Session 1](#)
[Parliament 39 Session 2](#)
[Parliament 40 Session 1](#)
[Parliament 40 Session 2](#)
[Parliament 41](#)

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

House Hansard Search

Fill in one or more of the boxes below to search House Hansard from October 28, 1975 to now.
 Note: Type of Business search is not available prior to Session 30:4, April 18, 1977.

KEYWORD: [Keyword Example](#)

SESSION: [Session Example](#)

TYPE OF BUSINESS: [Type of Business Example](#)

TOPIC: [Topic Example](#)

SPEAKER: [Speaker Example](#)

DATE RANGE:

DATE FROM/ON: DAY: MONTH: YEAR: [Date Example](#)

DATE TO: DAY: MONTH: YEAR: [Date Example](#)

[Execute Search](#) [New Search](#) [Help](#)

The electronic version of Hansard is provided for information purposes only. The printed version is the official report of debates and proceedings in the Ontario Legislative Assembly and its committees.

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

Legislative Assembly of Ontario

Members (MPPs) Legislative business Get involved Visit and learn Français Q

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Bill 1, An Act to perpetuate an ancient parliamentary right

[Ford, Hon. Doug](#) Premier

Current status: First Reading Carried

[View bill](#) [Status](#) [Debates](#)

Debates and Progress

First Reading
[July 12, 2018](#)

Committee

Second Reading
 Committee

Third Reading

Royal Assent

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