



# The Ontario Government: A Snapshot

## Engage Your Government



As of September 2014

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## The Legislative Assembly of Ontario

aka the Ontario Government, the House or Queen's Park

**107 Seats** Each seat is aligned with an electoral district or riding. Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs) are elected to a seat.



### 3 Parties

MPPs belong to one of three parties in the House. Independent MPPs do not belong to a political party.

**Liberals** 58 seats  
**Conservatives** 28 seats  
**New Democrats** 21 seats



See PAGE 3 for more about engaging your government

### 4 Years



Time between elections when the governing party has a majority. In a minority government situation, elections can happen anytime.

## The Cabinet

aka the Executive Council

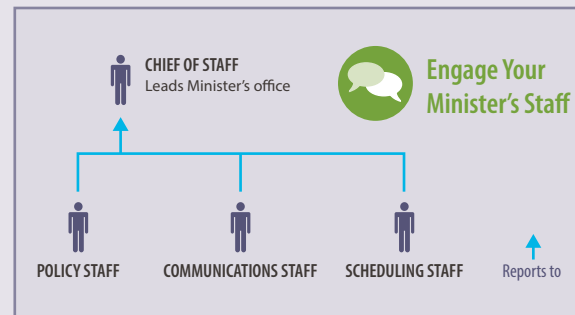
**27 Ministers** from the governing party make up the Cabinet.



### 1 Premier

The Premier can change the number of Ministers and ministries, as well as the MPPs who serve as Ministers. This can take place mid-term and virtually always happens when a party is elected or re-elected to form government.

### Minister's Office



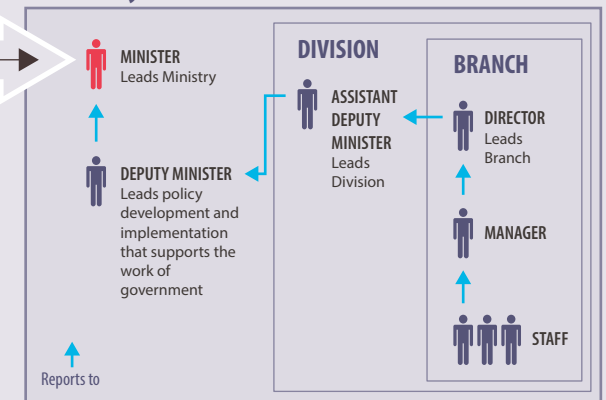
## The Ontario Public Service

aka OPS or the bureaucracy

**23 Ministries** Current number of ministries.



### Ministry



### 3 Ministries

have government-wide responsibilities:

- Ministry of Government Services
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Public Infrastructure and Renewal

### 5 Special-purpose Secretariats

do cross-government work impacting several ministries:

- Francophone Affairs
- Pan/Parapan American Games Secretariat
- Seniors' Secretariat
- Treasury Board Secretariat
- Women's Directorate

# The Ontario Government: Who Does What

## The Legislative Assembly of Ontario



Debate and vote on legislation and regulation brought forward by the government or by private members from all parties.

Represent their constituency and support residents in their ridings to access provincial government supports and information.



Vote on the provincial budget.

Attend question period where the opposition members hold the government to account by asking questions of the Premier and Cabinet members on government business or issues.

May be on standing or special purpose legislative committees.

## The Cabinet



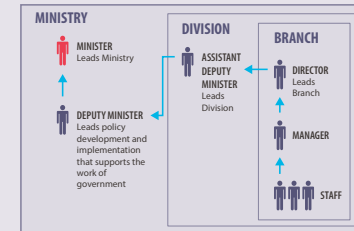
Each Minister leads a ministry, or department of government and is accountable to the Legislative Assembly and the public.

Cabinet members introduce legislation for consideration in the House.

The Cabinet makes the major decisions about government policies and priorities, including provincial budgets.

The decisions made in Cabinet provide direction for policy development and implementation in the Ontario Public Service.

## The Ontario Public Service

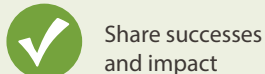


Non-partisan staff develop policy for Cabinet and implement Cabinet decisions and direction along with program design, implementation and evaluation.

The Secretary of Cabinet, Ontario's chief public servant, supports the work of the Premier and Cabinet and is responsible for leading the implementation of government direction and initiatives.

## Engage Your Government

### What to Connect About



Share successes and impact



Share future direction of your organization or sector



Share unique approaches and innovations

### Ways to Connect



Meet to talk about local issues, policy ideas, opportunities



Send publications, newsletters or press releases



Invite to events



Connect to each party's stakeholder relations team

# Ontario Ministries: A Snapshot

Here's a snapshot of Government ministries which often work with nonprofits and charities, and some of the programs and services that relate to the nonprofit sector. For a full listing of all 23 ministries, go to [ontario.ca](http://ontario.ca).



## Ministry of the Attorney General **MAG**

Court Services  
Criminal law  
Family Law  
Human Rights  
Family Justice

Office of the Children's Lawyer  
Public Guardian and Trustee  
Victims of Crime  
Wills and Estates



## Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs **OMAFRA**

Agriculture  
Building stronger rural communities  
Capacity building resources for organizations  
Economic development programs and resources  
Local Food  
Rural Summer Jobs Service



## Ministry of Children and Youth Services **MCYS**

Aboriginal Children and Youth  
Children's Aid  
Early Childhood policy and programs  
Ontario Child Benefit  
School Nutrition  
Special needs  
Youth and the Law  
Youth Opportunities programs



## Ministry of Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade **MCI-IT**

Challenge the World: Youth Volunteer Challenge  
English and French Adult Language Classes  
Language Interpretation Services  
Newcomer Settlement Program  
Partnership Project  
Provincial Honours and Awards



## Ministry of Community and Social Services **MCSS**

Community and developmental services  
Social assistance (OW, ODSP)  
The Family Responsibility Office



## Ministry of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure **MEDEI**

Accessibility Directorate  
Communities in Transition Program  
Office of Social Enterprise  
Open for Business  
Programs, services, tools to help business innovate and compete  
Young Entrepreneurs Program



## Ministry of Education **MEDU**

Child Care  
Elementary and Secondary Education  
Full-day Kindergarten  
Parent and Family Literacy Centres



## Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care **MOHLTC**

Assistive Devices  
Cancer Screening  
Emergency Health Services  
Healthy Kids  
Healthy Smiles Ontario  
HIV and Aids  
Hospitals and community health centres  
Mental Health and Addictions  
Midwifery

OHIP  
Public health  
Seniors' care



## Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing **MMAH**

Affordable rental and ownership housing  
Supportive housing  
Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative  
Land Use planning  
Greenbelt Protection  
Local/Municipal Government



## Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport **MTC**

Culture  
Sport, Recreation & Community Programs  
Tourism  
Tourism Planning and Operations  
Tourism, Policy and Development



## Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities **MTCU**

Adult Learning  
Apprenticeship  
Employment Ontario  
Post Secondary Education (including OSAP)  
Second Career  
Youth Employment Fund

*Please note: this is a snapshot of those ministries that often work with nonprofits and is not intended as a complete list. We encourage you to check out the resources below.*



## Resources

[info.gov.on.ca](http://info.gov.on.ca)

Directory of Government of Ontario Employees and Organizations

[ontario.ca](http://ontario.ca)

All about the Government of Ontario, including Premier's Office and Ministries

[ontario.ca/notforprofits](http://ontario.ca/notforprofits)

ServiceOntario's new central source of information for nonprofits and charities

[ontla.on.ca](http://ontla.on.ca)

Website for the Legislative Assembly of Ontario to learn about bills, debates and legislation

[twitter.com](https://twitter.com)

Get updates and connect to Ministers and Ministry staff