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It was divided into four districts namely: Lunenburg, Mackleburgh, Nassau, and Hesse. In 1791 the Constitutional Act divided Quebec into Upper and Lower Canada with the Ottawa River as the dividing line and Col. John Graves Simcoe became the first Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Upper Canada. The former four districts continued but renamed Eastern or Johnstown District, Midland or Kingston District, Home or Niagara District and Western or Detroit District. These districts were again divided into counties in 1792 and the nineteen counties elected sixteen representatives who formed the first parliament which convened at Newark (Niagara) then the capital, on September 17, 1792. A framework of government including English civil law, trial by jury and the beginning of local government was quickly established under Col. Simcoe. In 1796 the seat of government moved to York (Toronto).

The years from 1815 to the middle of the 19th Century marked a period of expansion and development. Upper Canada received a great migration from the British Isles and Europe and transportation and communication continually improved.

Canada's richest farm land lies in Ontario. Geographically and historically Ontario is in many ways the keystone province of Canada and constitutes 32.8% of Canada's population. Ontario has a story of continuing progress.