

File No.: 04-1000-20-2023-149

July 13, 2023

s.22(1)

Dear s.22(1)

Re: **Request for Access to Records under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the "Act")**

I am responding to your request of March 16, 2023 under the ***Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*** for:

**Records, including correspondence, meeting and phone call notes, presentations, and supporting documents, concerning the Vancouver Public Library event "Nolan Gray: How Zoning Broke the City and How to Fix It" held on March 15, 2023. Date range: March 15, 2022 to March 15, 2023.**

All responsive records are attached. Some information in the records has been severed (blacked out) under s.22(1) of the Act. You can read or download this section here: [http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws\\_new/document/ID/freeside/96165\\_00](http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws_new/document/ID/freeside/96165_00).

Under section 52 of the Act, and within 30 business days of receipt of this letter, you may ask the Information & Privacy Commissioner to review any matter related to the City's response to your FOI request by writing to: Office of the Information & Privacy Commissioner, [info@oipc.bc.ca](mailto:info@oipc.bc.ca) or by phoning 250-387-5629.

If you request a review, please provide the Commissioner's office with: 1) the request number (#04-1000-20-2023-149); 2) a copy of this letter; 3) a copy of your original request; and 4) detailed reasons why you are seeking the review.

Yours truly,

Kevin Tuerlings, FOI Case Manager, for

*[Signed by Kevin Tuerlings]*

**Cobi Falconer, MAS, MLIS, CIPP/C**  
**Director, Access to Information & Privacy**  
[cobi.falconer@vancouver.ca](mailto:cobi.falconer@vancouver.ca)

453 W. 12th Avenue Vancouver BC V5Y 1V4

If you have any questions, please email us at [foi@vancouver.ca](mailto:foi@vancouver.ca) and we will respond to you as soon as possible. Alternatively, you can call the FOI Case Manager at 604-871-6584.

Encl. (Response Package)

:kt

**From:** ["Caldwell, Ariel" <Ariel.Caldwell@vpl.ca>](mailto:Ariel.Caldwell@vpl.ca)  
**To:** ["Nichole Holdbak" <nichole.holdbak@vpl.ca>](mailto:nichole.holdbak@vpl.ca)  
**CC:** ["Erin Watkins" <Erin.Watkins@vpl.ca>](mailto:Erin.Watkins@vpl.ca)  
**Date:** 4/14/2023 10:52:43 AM  
**Subject:** Re: CALL FOR INFO: Qualitative Patron Feedback - Q1 2023

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Hi Nichole,

Here are some quotes to choose from. It was hard to whittle down the list!

(Also, there are a few about Indigenous programming that might be useful for the Indigenous programming highlights section. I've identified them in [purple](#).)

Enjoy!

All the best,  
Ariel

**From the Learning and Literacy team:**

"[What makes me feel comfortable is that *ESL Conversation Practice Online*] provides an environment free of judgment. The hosts are kind and cheerful"

"[What made me feel comfortable at *Making a Tax Plan* was that] both hosts were super patient and professional throughout the entire program! Meghan was great at answering everyone's questions in a clear, concise, and non-judgemental fashion. As someone who grew up in a family without a lot of financial literacy, learning & asking questions about taxes and personal finances can feel a bit daunting, but the ability to submit questions anonymously made me feel very comfortable and welcome! Having the slides e-mailed to me after the event was also very helpful."

"[Dungeons and Dragons and You] was fantastic. I love that this is something the library puts on. Thanks for doing something to build community in our city. We need more things like this."

"Thank you again for coordinating such a wonderful workshop [at *Making A Tax Plan*]! There is always such an overwhelming amount of information out there about taxes and finances that it can be hard to know where to start. In these moments I'm incredibly grateful that the library is here to offer free, trustworthy, and well thought out educational events for folks like me to plan better and feel more confident!"

At [Zoom Skills] the presenters were nice welcoming, they explained things simply for all level of people. There was a wonderful presentation. I understand that they have other classes as well. If I have opportunity to attend surely, I will do that. In addition, I recommended the VPL classes to my friends as well. I appreciate you and the library manager for holding these kinds of classes that are run for free."

"[[Indigenous Considerations for Newcomers to Canada](#)] exceeded my expectations. It was clear and simple while also being rich in content. I'm glad I invested the 90mins to participate, so that I could get some of the foundational ABC's of this topic. Kudos to the designers of this



presentation and the facilitators, if they were not the same.”

“[Our Relationship to Money] has a mix of items that are helpful for learning, reflection, participation, and moving forward which keeps it interesting and helpful. [As a result of this program I will] explore the money tree activity more and see how I may begin to debunk unhelpful beliefs or relationship with money.

**From the Digital Creation team:**

[At the online Meditative Drawing Basics program], Paola has a very nice, calm presentation approach & helped me feel comfortable & relaxed. The calm reminders helped me be restful, breathe & to calm my internal tension. I really enjoyed this hour and would love it to be a regular event. Thank you for providing such a service. As a result of attending this program, I'm going to practice Mindfulness drawing & visit the Inspiration Lab.

Thank you for the [Meditative Drawing Basics] workshop. It has been very helpful. I am a Master of Counselling student and this has given me a new tool to help myself and my clients. I felt very welcomed and comfortable [at the Digitization Drop-In]. This was my first time attending a VPL event, let alone the Inspiration Lab. Instructors Ali and Allison were excellent - thorough, knowledgeable, patient with our questions. The experience reinforced what an amazing and endless resource the library is!

Paola and Chapin were excellent hosts and presenters [of the Let's Talk Planning a Video Project class]. Great experience-based advice. Such an informative class they both gave! I can't say enough about how I appreciate that VPL is able to put on these courses. So valuable, especially for those of us who can't afford expensive courses elsewhere. Thank you very much Paola and Chapin!

[The Recording a Video Project] program absolutely met my expectations. I found this class very valuable, it's helping me feel more confident in my transition into video. I really liked the hands-on element. Video can come off as intimidating, but I wasn't intimidated today. The instructors are very knowledgeable and helpful. I look forward to these classes. As a result of attending this program, I'm going to look even more into learning about cameras and video planning.

I learned quite a lot [at Self-Publishing 102: Create an Ebook with Sigil]. There was no pressure and we were given plenty of time to work at our own pace. It was a good introduction, giving us the knowledge we need to experiment further. [I'm going to] practice with Sigil.

I felt very welcomed and comfortable [at Self-Publishing 102: Create an Ebook with Sigil because the] presenters were accommodating for my hearing loss and answered all my questions. As a result of attending this program, I will be creating an ebook for my family history.

**From the Literary Engagement Team:**

As a result of attending [Lunar New Year: Year of the Water Rabbit], I'm going to teach my kids Chinese musical instruments. The program out-performed my expectations.

Expectations were exceeded. I left the [Lunar New Year] event feeling more proud of my Chinese heritage. As a result of attending this event, I'm going to seek out more cultural and community programs within the city.

I felt very welcomed and comfortable [at the Truth and Reconciliation Book Club]. Everyone was really respectful and that made it easy for people to be themselves and also to talk at the level of understanding they had gained. Beautifully moderated [by] Leah. It more than met my expectations. The commitment to excellence was clearly evident, Jonna and Leah were so well prepared, it flowed easily. I will do more of these as a result. Thank you.

Leah and Jonna were wonderful hosts [of the Truth and Reconciliation Book Club]. You should have an option for EXCEEDED expectations. This program was brilliantly organized and well-researched. I thoroughly enjoyed participating. This program has given me resources to spread the word about anti-racism and Indigenous alliance.

I felt very welcome and comfortable [because] everyone [is] encouraged to participate [in the Truth and Reconciliation Book Club]. Jonna is a great facilitator in meetings and the resource lists she provides are rich in opportunities. I really appreciate VPL's participation via a book club at a branch I can easily reach. It's so important to feature Bob Joseph's book and the discussions that need to happen now, when so many issues must be dealt with by individuals and all levels of government.

It was wonderful to hear a variety of voices [at the Writers Showcase]!

**From the Arts and Culture team:**

As a result of attending [Norma Dunning: Uncovering the History of the Eskimo Disc System], I plan to buy Norma Dunning's book that has been on my TBR for a while; and maybe try Darrel McLeod's book too. Thank you for this insightful program and for other programs dealing with experiences in history particularly of groups mainstream culture may not know a lot about and that many people in this country would benefit from learning from and about.

[Nolan Gray: How Zoning Broke the City and How to Fix It] was fabulous! I can absolutely see coming to more educational community panel events such as this, particularly on the subject of housing or aging or setting yourself up for a healthy retirement. The program inspired me to write to local politicians to propose solutions to [the housing crisis].

As a result of attending [Chelene Knight: Junie] I am going to explore my various traumas in writing (in a therapeutic way). This event was excellent. Both of the speakers were fantastic to listen to and the "vibe", if you will, was casual, relaxed, friendly--an open and honest discussion/conversation between two creative people. Would love to see more of these kinds of events!

I felt welcomed by everything at [Opera Adventures]! The vpl host, the performers, the venue — singing staircase was magical, and the inclusion of some audience participation. The revelation of hearing such beautiful singing, so ably supported by piano, it more than met my expectations — the historical background provided was fascinating too, and the main presenter was a wonderful speaker, lively and warm, as well as a superb singer. Thanks very much to all concerned!

[Conversations with Khahtsahlano: As We Knew Him] inspired me to read the book and educate myself more about the local indigenous people. It was well facilitated by the MC and panel leader. Excellent presentations by Elders. This helped to make bring history come alive with a perspective of Squamish people. Thank you Massey books, VPL, and Squamish Elders. It was an honour to be part of this important event.

Ariel Caldwell (she/her)  
Assistant Manager, Learning and Literacy  
Programming and Learning Services



Vancouver Public Library

T: [s.22\(1\)](tel:6043313838) E: [ariel.caldwell@vpl.ca](mailto:ariel.caldwell@vpl.ca)

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [vpl.ca](http://vpl.ca)

Vancouver Public Library acknowledges that our work takes place on the unceded homelands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) nations.

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**From:** Nichole Holdbak

**Sent:** March 31, 2023 3:13 PM

**To:** Jade Reed; Ariel Caldwell; Gina Gaudet; Lianne Watt; Zoey Peterson; Alicia Cheng; Kelty Roberts; Jennifer Streckmann; William Lee(VPL); Maia Sampson

**Cc:** Marya Gadison; Patricia Chong

**Subject:** CALL FOR INFO: Qualitative Patron Feedback - Q1 2023

Good afternoon everyone,

As part of the Quarterly Strategic Plan Report, I include a variety of patron feedback, comments and examples of online engagement. In order to fill out this section of the report with a variety of sources for comments and feedback, I am asking each of you to please share any qualitative feedback /comments that your department may have received anytime during Q1 2023 (Jan/Feb/Mar).

Please email me with any information you have to share by EOD Friday April 14<sup>th</sup>. If you have forwarded comments previously there is no need to re-send.

If you have questions about this request don't hesitate to reach out and we can discuss further.

Thank you!

Nichole Holdbak

Planning Analyst, Policy & Planning | Vancouver Public Library

3rd Floor | 350 W. Georgia St., Vancouver, BC, V6B 6B1

T: 604.331.3838 | [nichole.holdbak@vpl.ca](mailto:nichole.holdbak@vpl.ca)

I acknowledge that I live and work on the traditional, unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm ( [Musqueam](#)), Skwxwú7mesh ( [Squamish](#)), and səliłwətaʔ ( [Tsleil-Waututh](#)) nations.



# Nolan Gray: How Zoning Broke the City and How to Fix It

Vancouver Public Library  
Central Library: 350 W Georgia St  
Alice MacKay Room, Lower Level  
Wednesday, March 15, 2023  
7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Vancouver (PT)

## VPL Event staff:

Jorge Amigo (he/him) — Head of Cultural Programming | s.15(1)(l) | jorge.amigo@vpl.ca  
Dylan Schroeder (he/him) — Librarian | dylan.schroeder@vpl.ca  
Candie Tanaka (they/them) — Event Coordinator | candie.tanaka@vpl.ca

## Speakers:

Nolan Gray — author  
Frances Bula — interviewer  
Brendan Dawe — event partner (intro)

## AGENDA

6:15 pm (PT)	<b>Speakers</b> arrive, meet VPL staff at Alice MacKay Room (Lower Level)
6:30 pm	Doors open to public; speakers in green room
<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Event begins:</b> <b>Jorge</b> opens event; introduces <b>Brendan</b>
7:05 pm	<b>Brendan</b> talks about Abundant Housing Vancouver (~5 min)
7:10 pm	<b>Jorge</b> introduces speakers; <b>Frances</b> begins conversation with <b>Nolan</b>
8:00 pm	Audience Q&A begins — <b>Frances</b> moderates (~15-20 mins)
<b>8:15 pm</b>	<b>Event ends.</b> <b>Jorge</b> does closing remarks. Book signing begins.

[VPL event listing](#)

[Facebook event](#)

\*we don't have to end at 8:15. Room cutoff is 9pm, so we can extend the Q&A to 8:30.

## March 15 — Nolan Gray: How Zoning Broke the City and How to Fix It

Hello and welcome to the Alice MacKay Room at the Vancouver Public Library. My name is Jorge Amigo and I'm the Head of Cultural Programming here at VPL.

Before we begin, I want to **acknowledge** that we are hosting this event from the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Musqueam, the Squamish and the Tsleil-Waututh. I want to share that I'm an **immigrant from Mexico** and therefore a **settler in these lands**, which means I have a responsibility to continually learn about the ongoing effects of colonialism in this part of the world, and to take **sincere actions towards decolonization**, especially in my work as a public servant.

I cannot tell you how thrilled I am to see a full house tonight for this event. This is exactly what a library is for. To be a **forum for new ideas**, and to bring people **together** to discuss the most important issues of our time. This is exactly why I got into public programming, so it's an absolute pleasure for me to welcome you here tonight.

Quick show of hands: who is here for the very first time? And who has been to a library event in the last year?

Now, a couple housekeeping notes:

If you need to exit the room during the event, please use either of these doors. You can leave and re-enter anytime. The closest washrooms are located to the right of these doors.

And PLEASE take a moment right now to silence your phones...you don't need to turn them off. In fact: I encourage you to take photos or videos during the event, and share them on your social media. Please please tag VPL and tell the world you came to a cool library event!



Tonight we're here to talk about something that affects all of us: **zoning laws**. Now, I know this might not sound like the most riveting thing to discuss, especially for those of us who are not urban policy nerds, but the implications of zoning are enormous for the shape of our cities. So whichever side of this debate you're on, **whether you love or hate zoning**, my hope is that tonight you'll leave with a better understanding of how zoning affects your life, and the lives of everyone you know.

Now, I want to thank two organizations that made it possible for Nolan to be in Vancouver today: **Abundant Housing Vancouver**, and **Happy Cities**. Thank you so much for your support.

On that note, I'm going to hand over the mic to **Brendan Dawe**, who is an economist and urban planning consultant, and one of the co-founders of **Abundant Housing Vancouver**.

—

Thanks Brendan. And now it's my pleasure to introduce tonight's speakers:

**Nolan Gray** is a professional city planner and an expert in urban land-use regulation. He is currently completing a Ph.D. in urban planning at UCLA. Gray previously worked on the front lines of zoning as a planner in New York City. He now serves as an Affiliated Scholar with the Mercatus Center at George Mason University, where he advises state and local policymakers on land-use policy. He is a widely published author, whose work has appeared in top publications like The Atlantic, Bloomberg Citylab, and The Guardian.

**Frances Bula** is a journalist specializing in urban issues and city politics in the Vancouver region, which she's covered since 1994. She's an urban affairs contributor to The Globe and Mail, and has written regularly for many publications, including the Vancouver Sun (where she worked for 20 years). Frances also teaches at the UBC School of Journalism.

They're going to talk for about 40 minutes, and then we'll open it up to questions from the audience. Frances, take it away!

– closing remarks –

Thank you everyone for being here. Thank you to Frances and Nolan for this conversation.

And thank you Frances for translating and summarizing audience questions.

I have to say, I've hosted more than 300 events in my career, and this was the most sophisticated, knowledgeable Q&A I've ever witnessed. So thank you for enriching the discussion, and thanks for sharing some important personal stories!

I want to take back something I said earlier. It turns out that a discussion about zoning can be riveting. Who knew?!

Now, our friends from Book Warehouse are here selling copies of the book. So if you want to dive deeper into this conversation, go get yourself a copy. Nolan will be sitting at the table over there signing books.

Also, if you want to keep chatting with Nolan, the folks from Abundant Housing are hosting a pub night right after this event, at 9pm at Brown's at the QE Theatre.

Before I let you go, I want to tell you about a couple events coming up soon here at VPL.

Next Wednesday, March 22, we're hosting a conversation between two doctors who are also authors: Vincent Lam and Daniel Kalla. This event will be about Vincent Lam's new novel, which deals with the opioid epidemic and the impact of addictions. This event is in partnership with the Vancouver Writers Festival, as part of a series we host here at VPL called INCITE.

And the Wednesday after that, March 29, we're hosting a conversation with Governor General Award winning Inuk writer **Norma Dunning**, about her new memoir *Kinauvit?*, where she uncovers the history of the Eskimo Disk System, which was a tool of colonization that reduced Inuit identity to a mere number. She'll be in conversation with another Governor General Award winner, Darrel McLeod.

And then starting in April, we'll kick off our Uplift Asian series, which celebrates Asian cultures and perspectives, and serves to push back against anti-Asian racism in our communities. So stay tuned for the full lineup coming in a few days.

I hope you can join us again! That's all I got. Thanks for coming, and have a good night!

**From:** ["Jorge Amigo" <Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca>](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)  
**To:** ["Brendan Dawe" <bdawe@urbanics.com>](mailto:bdawe@urbanics.com)  
**Date:** 5/18/2023 5:14:57 PM  
**Subject:** Accepted: Nolan Gray VPL Chat  
**Attachments:** not supported calendar message.ics

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Great! Let's do a Zoom call...

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**From:**  
**Date:**  
**Subject:**  
**Attachments:** Accepted: Nolan Gray VPL Chat.ics

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**From:**  
**Subject:** Accepted: Nolan Gray VPL Chat  
**Location:** Call  
**When:** 1/13/2023 2:30:00 PM - 3:00:00 PM

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## Accepted: Nolan Gray VPL Chat



## Nolan Gray: How Zoning Broke the City and How to Fix It

Vancouver Public Library  
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Alice MacKay Room, Lower Level  
Wednesday, March 15, 2023  
7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Vancouver (PT)

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Dylan Schroeder (he/him) — Librarian | dylan.schroeder@vpl.ca  
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### Speakers:

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Brendan Dawe — event partner (intro)

### AGENDA

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[VPL event listing](#)

[Facebook event](#)

\*we don't have to end at 8:15. Room cutoff is 9pm, so we can extend the Q&A to 8:30.

**From:** ["Jorge Amigo" <Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca>](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)  
**To:** ["Brendan Dawe" <bdawe@urbanics.com>](mailto:bdawe@urbanics.com)  
**Date:** 5/18/2023 5:14:57 PM  
**Subject:** Brendan + Jorge chat

---

Hi Brendan, let's chat about the Nolan Grey event, and discuss potential moderators.

Let's do a phone call. I'll give you a ring.



**From:** ["Jorge Amigo" <Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca>](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)  
**To:** ["Frances Bula" <francesbula@gmail.com>](mailto:francesbula@gmail.com)  
[mnolangray@gmail.com](mailto:mnolangray@gmail.com)  
**CC:** ["Brendan Dawe" s.22\(1\)](mailto:Brendan.Dawe@s.22(1))  
["Tanaka, Candie" <Candie.Tanaka@vpl.ca>](mailto:Candie.Tanaka@vpl.ca)  
["Dylan Schroeder" <Dylan.Schroeder@vpl.ca>](mailto:Dylan.Schroeder@vpl.ca)  
[charles@happycities.com](mailto:charles@happycities.com)  
**Date:** 5/18/2023 5:14:58 PM  
**Subject:** Details for VPL event, March 15  
**Attachments:** Agenda - Nolan Gray - March 15.pdf

Hello **Nolan** and **Frances** and happy Friday! I'm excited about our event next Wednesday, and hope you are, too.

I'll be hosting the event, and my colleagues **Candie** and **Dylan** (copied) will be producing it with me.

I'm writing to share three important next steps:

### 1) Event agenda

I'm attaching the event agenda. Please read it so we're all familiar with the format. It'll be very straightforward: **Frances** will interview **Nolan** about *Arbitrary Lines* for about 40-50 mins, and then we'll take questions from the audience for about 15-20 mins. Please note: the times on the agenda are not meant to be exact...just a general roadmap.

### 2) Arrival at Central Library

On March 15, **please aim to arrive at the [Central Library](#) by 6:15 pm** (45 mins before the event). Please meet me at the Alice MacKay Room in the Lower Level. You'll see a sign with the event poster inside the covered Atrium, at the top of the stairs that lead down to the venue.

We'll take you to a green room, so you can all connect before the event. At 6:50, I'll give us a run-through of the event, before we go on stage.

If you have any trouble or delays arriving at the library, please call me: [s.15\(1\)\(l\)](#)

If you're driving, the closest place to park is the EasyPark parkade right under the library. The entrance is on Hamilton Street.

### 3) Promotion and audience management

The event is sold out, with lots of people on the waitlist. The event capacity will be 220 seats, with very little standing room.

If people contact you about extra spots, please encourage them to [join the waitlist](#). The day before the event, we send an automated message to registrants, which usually leads to about 20% of people letting go of their spots. So we'll be able to

assign those spots to people on the waitlist.

We ask that you please don't encourage people to show up without registration, to avoid having to turn people away. We oversold the event based on our no-shows data from past events, and are already accounting for a certain portion of the audience to be walk-ins in this calculation.

Also, we will be recording the event and uploading that recording to the VPL's YouTube [channel](#), for people who can't attend. We do not have the capacity to livestream this event, in case people ask you.

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That's all I got for now. Let me know if I can clarify anything. And have a safe flight, Nolan!

See you all next Wednesday **March 15 at (or before) 6:15 pm PT.**

P.S. Nolan, if you've never been to this library, I encourage you (and your hosts Charles and Brendan) to arrive early and give yourselves a nice walking tour of the building, especially Level 8 and the [rooftop garden](#) on Level 9!

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)

Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**From:** ["Brendan Dawe" <bdawe@urbanics.com>](mailto:bdawe@urbanics.com)  
**To:** ["Jorge Amigo" <Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca>](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)  
**Date:** 1/24/2023 3:41:51 PM  
**Subject:** [External] Accepted: Brendan + Jorge chat

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**From:** ["Nolan Gray" <mnolangray@gmail.com>](mailto:mnolangray@gmail.com)  
**To:** ["Jorge Amigo" <Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca>](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)  
**Date:** 3/21/2023 7:25:16 PM  
**Subject:** [External] Mailing Address

---

Hi Jorge,

What's your mailing address?

I hope you don't mind if I send along a postcard.

Best,  
Nolan

--

Matthew Nolan Gray  
[mnolangray@gmail.com](mailto:mnolangray@gmail.com)  
Cell: s.22(1) [REDACTED]

**From:** ["Brendan Dawe" <bdawe@urbanics.com>](mailto:bdawe@urbanics.com)  
**To:** ["Jorge Amigo" <Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca>](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)  
**CC:** [info@abundanthousingvancouver.com](mailto:info@abundanthousingvancouver.com)  
["Brendan Dawe"](mailto:bdawe@urbanics.com) s.22(1)  
**Date:** 1/24/2023 10:59:18 AM  
**Subject:** [External] Nolan Gray Confirm

---

Hi Jorge,  
Just want to confirm that we're 100% before I book flights for the Nolan Gray event  
Cheers  
**Brendan Dawe**  
**Associate**  
**Urbanics Consultants Ltd.**  
C: (778) 988-4722  
W: (604) 669-2724  
E: [bdawe@urbanics.com](mailto:bdawe@urbanics.com)  
[www.urbanics.com](http://www.urbanics.com)  
Creating Special Places – since 1976

**From:** ["Mary-Ann Yazedjian" <maryannbbb@gmail.com>](mailto:maryannbbb@gmail.com)  
**To:** ["Jorge Amigo" <Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca>](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)  
**CC:** ["Ali Hewitt, Ampersand" <alih@ampersandinc.ca>](mailto:alih@ampersandinc.ca)  
**Date:** 2/9/2023 11:51:49 AM  
**Subject:** [External] Re: Bookseller for VPL event, March 15

Hey, that's great. The more gentle nudges, the better. :)

Mary-Ann Yazedjian (she/her)

Special Projects  
Book Warehouse and Black Bond Books  
**Proudly Independent**  
[www.bookwarehouse.ca](http://www.bookwarehouse.ca)

On Thu, Feb 9, 2023 at 11:41 AM Jorge Amigo [<Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca>](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca) wrote:

I may have already accidentally done that for you, Mary-Ann!

I wrote to UBC Press after seeing your initial reply, gently saying that I was confused about who distributes the book because of a reply from a bookseller.

Great...I'll wait for your confirmation :)

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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---

**From:** Mary-Ann Yazedjian [<maryannbbb@gmail.com>](mailto:maryannbbb@gmail.com)  
**Sent:** February 9, 2023 11:39 AM  
**To:** Ali Hewitt, Ampersand  
**Cc:** Jorge Amigo  
**Subject:** [External] Re: Bookseller for VPL event, March 15

Thank you Ali! Let me know when you have the info. Is there a way to gently tell UBC Press that I almost turned down an event where we could potentially sell dozens of books

because they're choosing not to share data on Pubstock? :)

Jorge, please tentatively count me in, pending confirmation that we can get enough books.

Thanks both!

Mary-Ann Yazedjian (she/her)

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On Thu, Feb 9, 2023 at 11:35 AM Ali Hewitt, Ampersand <[alih@ampersandinc.ca](mailto:alih@ampersandinc.ca)> wrote:

Hi you two,

Yes indeed, UBC Press works to represent Island Press in Canada (though the books are actually shipped and invoiced from UTP Distribution). Unfortunately UBC Press chooses not to share data about stock availability for these titles on Pubstock, hence Mary-Ann's confusion! I've just sent an email to UBC Press asking them how many copies they currently have, and a timeline to bring more in!

Mary-Ann, I'll share that info with you as soon as I get it!

AH.

---

**From:** Mary-Ann Yazedjian <[maryannbbb@gmail.com](mailto:maryannbbb@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** February 9, 2023 11:32 AM

**To:** Jorge Amigo <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)>; Ali Hewitt, Ampersand <[alih@ampersandinc.ca](mailto:alih@ampersandinc.ca)>

**Subject:** Re: Bookseller for VPL event, March 15

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I'm copying our Ampersand rep Ali on here, who can maybe answer questions for me. Ali, I think you're the right person to ask about UBC Press, yes? Help my brain please?

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Mary-Ann Yazedjian (she/her)

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On Thu, Feb 9, 2023 at 11:24 AM Jorge Amigo <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)> wrote:

So...I have a question about that (since I don't know anything about distributors).

I talked to UBC Press directly, to ask them for review copies for myself and the



moderator...and they said they had 15 copies in stock here, and would order more in anticipation of an order from a bookseller, once I invited someone.

So please let me know if I'm incorrect in thinking that UBC Press is the local distributor. (it's useful for me to know for future events, since I can understand why ordering from Island Press is too big a financial risk)

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)

Head of Cultural Programming

Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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---

**From:** Mary-Ann Yazedjian <[maryannbbb@gmail.com](mailto:maryannbbb@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** February 9, 2023 11:21 AM

**To:** Jorge Amigo

**Subject:** [External] Re: Bookseller for VPL event, March 15

Hi Jorge,

Nice to see you last night. That was a really interesting event.

This Nolan Gray event looks great BUT as far as I can see the book is only available through a US distributor and we wouldn't order from them for an event. Shipping costs are too high, the book price ends up being high, and then potential returns are expensive. Having said that, I'm checking with a local rep to see if there's any chance of some copies being available in Canada. I'll let you know as soon as I hear back from her.

Thanks!

Mary-Ann Yazedjian (she/her)

Special Projects

Book Warehouse and Black Bond Books

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[www.bookwarehouse.ca](http://www.bookwarehouse.ca)

On Wed, Feb 8, 2023 at 9:07 PM Jorge Amigo <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)> wrote:

Hello, nice to see you at the library just now!

Here's the invitation I mentioned:

I'm organizing an event with **Nolan Gray** about [Arbitrary Lines](#) on March 15, and it should be a very popular one!

**Date:** Wednesday, March 15

**Time:** Event starts at 7 pm and ends at 8 pm, with book singing to follow. Doors open at 6:30 pm.

**Venue:** Alice MacKay Room, Central Library

**Format:** author interview. Nolan discusses his book with interviewer [Frances Bula](#).

We're partnering with [Abundant Housing](#) and [Happy Cities](#), and zoning is a very hot topic in Vancouver, so I'm expecting a full house (around 220 people) for this.

Are you interested?

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)

Head of Cultural Programming

Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**From:** "Mary-Ann Yazedjian" <[maryannbbb@gmail.com](mailto:maryannbbb@gmail.com)>  
**To:** "Jorge Amigo" <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)>  
**Date:** 2/9/2023 3:49:31 PM  
**Subject:** [External] Re: Bookseller for VPL event, March 15

Hi Jorge,

Ok, I'm in! I've submitted my order and Ali will keep an eye on it. Please let me know when you have more details, like start time.

Thanks and see you soon,

Mary-Ann Yazedjian (she/her)

Special Projects  
Book Warehouse and Black Bond Books  
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**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
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**Sent:** February 9, 2023 11:39 AM  
**To:** Ali Hewitt, Ampersand



**Cc:**Jorge Amigo

**Subject:**[External] Re: Bookseller for VPL event, March 15

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Mary-Ann, I'll share that info with you as soon as I get it!

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**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)

Head of Cultural Programming

Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**Subject:** [External] Re: Bookseller for VPL event, March 15

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We're partnering with [Abundant Housing](#) and [Happy Cities](#), and zoning is a very hot topic in Vancouver, so I'm expecting a full house (around 220 people) for this.

Are you interested?

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)

Head of Cultural Programming



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**From:** "Frances Bula" <[francesbula@gmail.com](mailto:francesbula@gmail.com)>  
**To:** "Jorge Amigo" <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)>  
**Date:** 2/27/2023 1:29:19 PM  
**Subject:** [External] Re: Invitation to moderate VPL event, March 15

Yes, I did get it. About to start reading

---

Frances Bula | Urban Issues Writer  
State of Vancouver blog: [www.francesbula.com](http://www.francesbula.com) |  
Phone 604.812.6205 |

On Mon, Feb 27, 2023 at 1:24 PM Jorge Amigo <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)> wrote:

Hi Frances, hope you enjoyed the snowy weekend!

I'm writing to ask if you received the book. The publisher sent me a UPS tracking link, and it says it was delivered on Feb 23...please let me know if you did indeed receive it!

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**From:** Jorge Amigo  
**Sent:** February 22, 2023 2:09 PM  
**To:** Frances Bula  
**Subject:** Re: [External] Re: Invitation to moderate VPL event, March 15

Same! I haven't received my copy either. I'll ask the publisher to send an update ASAP.

Otherwise, I'll order you an express delivery from \*gasp\* Amazon.

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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---

**From:** Frances Bula <[francesbula@gmail.com](mailto:francesbula@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** February 22, 2023 9:20 AM  
**To:** Jorge Amigo  
**Subject:** Re: [External] Re: Invitation to moderate VPL event, March 15  
K, looking forward to the book getting here

---

Frances Bula | Urban Issues Writer  
State of Vancouver blog: [www.francesbula.com](http://www.francesbula.com) |  
Phone 604.812.6205 |

On Fri, Feb 17, 2023 at 9:42 AM Jorge Amigo <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)> wrote:

Hi Frances, s.22(1)

Quick update to say I ordered Nolan's book for you last week, so it'll hopefully get to you by early next week. Excited to have you on board for this. I'll share the link to the event listing shortly.

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**From:** Frances Bula <[francesbula@gmail.com](mailto:francesbula@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** February 2, 2023 5:26 PM

**To:** Jorge Amigo

**Subject:** [External] Re: Invitation to moderate VPL event, March 15

s.22(1)

---

Frances Bula | Urban Issues Writer

State of Vancouver blog: [www.francesbula.com](http://www.francesbula.com) |

Phone 604.812.6205 |

On Thu, Feb 2, 2023 at 4:47 PM Jorge Amigo <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)> wrote:

Wonderful! Thanks for the quick reply and for accepting my invitation.

s.22(1)

When you have a sec, please send me your mailing address, so I can have the publisher mail you the book.

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)

Head of Cultural Programming

Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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---

**From:** Frances Bula <[francesbula@gmail.com](mailto:francesbula@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** February 2, 2023 4:15 PM

**To:** Jorge Amigo

**Subject:** [External] Re: Invitation to moderate VPL event, March 15

Oh, hey, I follow Nolan Gray on Twitter and knew this book was coming out. I'd love to do this!!!



Another group was trying to find a date for a panel that I'm on and March 15 was one of the possibles, but I haven't heard back from them so I'm going to say yes to this.

s.22(1) so won't write a long message.

Back on Monday. We can discuss more details later.

---

Frances Bula | Urban Issues Writer  
State of Vancouver blog: [www.francesbula.com](http://www.francesbula.com) |  
Phone 604.812.6205 |

On Wed, Feb 1, 2023 at 10:26 AM Jorge Amigo <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)> wrote:

Hello Frances, and nice to meet you!

My name is Jorge and I'm the Head of Cultural Programming at the Vancouver Public Library. I'm writing with an invitation for you:

I'm organizing an event with **Nolan Gray** about his recent book, [\*Arbitrary Lines\*](#) on the history and impacts of zoning in cities. It would be wonderful to have you as the moderator/interviewer for this event.

The event will be on **Wednesday, March 15 at 7 pm Pacific**.

We're aiming for a 60-min **in-person** event, hosted in the Alice MacKay Room of the Central Library.

Your role would be to interview Nolan about his book, and help moderate some questions from the audience at the end. The format will be simple:

- 5 min intros (by me)
- 35-40 min discussion (you lead it)
- 15 mins of audience Q&A

I can offer you an honorarium of \$300 for your time.

Please let me know if you're interested and available!



If you accept this invitation, the next steps are simple:

- I'll ask the publisher to send you a copy of the book
- I'll ask you to share a headshot for the event listing
- My team will create an event listing in mid-February and send you the link
- I'll send the event agenda with connection details a week before the event

Here's a [playlist](#) with some recent similar events we've organized.

Hope to hear from you soon!

P.S. please know that this event will be in partnership with [Abundant Housing](#), who are paying for Nolan to come to Vancouver. They are also arranging sponsorship from [Happy Cities](#) to help cover costs. To help avoid any conflict of interest for you and your reporting, VPL will pay for your honorarium.

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

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**From:** "Brendan Dawe" s.22(1)  
**To:** "Jorge Amigo" <Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca>  
**Date:** 2/23/2023 4:17:05 PM  
**Subject:** [External] Re: Nolan Gray at VPL

Thanks Jorge!

On Thu, Feb 23, 2023 at 4:14 PM Jorge Amigo <Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca> wrote:

Hi Brendan, thanks for your patience. I have good news!

This went all the way up to the Chief Librarian, and I advocated to keep things as simple as possible for all of us, so here's what we propose:

1) Yes, you can send an email invitation to councillors and the Mayor, but editing the message so you're not inviting them on behalf of VPL. Here's the simple edit I propose:

(please note that we are Vancouver Public **Library**, not Libraries, as it said in the first draft)

--

Abundant Housing Vancouver and Happy Cities would like to invite you to attend an in-person speaker event "Nolan Gray: How Zoning Broke the City and How to Fix It" on the evening of Wednesday, March 15th, hosted by the Vancouver Public Library.

Nolan Gray was recently a researcher at UCLA, is a planner, and currently is the research director at California YIMBY. Frances Bula and he will discuss his new book *Arbitrary Lines*, which describes the problems caused by zoning and approaches to addressing them. You can find out more about the book in [this interview](#) with the American Planning Association.

Please RSVP on VPL's website, [here](#).

On behalf of all of us, I hope you can make it!

Sincerely,

Stuart Smith

Director at Abundant Housing Vancouver

--

2) if the Mayor or councillors reply that they're attending, please give me a heads up. We have a Board meeting that night, and our leadership team would love the opportunity to come down and greet elected officials, if they're in the building.

3) And something to note: if the Mayor attends, our experience is that his office might interpret the invitation as having a slot to speak at the beginning. So keep me posted if he does reply, and we can adapt our agenda for this.

Onward!

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**From:** Jorge Amigo  
**Sent:** February 22, 2023 2:32 PM  
**To:** Brendan Dawe  
**Subject:** Re: [External] Re: Nolan Gray at VPL

Thanks for sharing! Please put this on hold for now.



I'll pass this on to the comms team for direction and next steps. Stay tuned...

(I'm hosting a large event today and another tomorrow, so I might be slower than usual on email until Friday...but I'll get this to the right folks in the meantime)

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

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**From:** Brendan Dawe <[s.22\(1\)](#)>  
**Sent:** February 21, 2023 7:43 PM  
**To:** Jorge Amigo  
**Subject:** [External] Re: Nolan Gray at VPL  
Hi Jorge:

In particular we're looking at the mayor & council. Stuart drafted up the following:

Dear [Mayor/Councillor] [Last Name],

On behalf of Abundant Housing Vancouver, Vancouver Public Libraries and Happy Cities, we would like to invite you to attend our in-person speaker event "[Nolan Gray: How Zoning Broke the City and How to Fix It](#)" on the evening of Wednesday, March 15th.

Nolan Gray was recently a researcher at UCLA, is a planner, and currently is the research director at California YIMBY. Frances Bula and he will discuss his new book *Arbitrary Lines*, which describes the problems caused by zoning and approaches to addressing them. You can find out more about the book in [this interview](#) with the American Planning Association.

Please RSVP on VPL's website, [here](#). On behalf of all of us, I hope you can make it!

Sincerely,

Stuart Smith

Director at Abundant Housing Vancouver

Cheers,

Brendan

On Tue, Feb 21, 2023 at 5:18 PM Jorge Amigo <[jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)> wrote:

Update: [Facebook event](#) is up!

I sent a request to the Abundant Housing page to be co-host.

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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---

**From:** Jorge Amigo  
**Sent:** February 21, 2023 12:33 PM  
**To:** Brendan Dawe  
**Subject:** Re: [External] Re: RRe: Nolan Gray at VPL

I just talked with our marketing and comms manager, and here's the summary:

If you're sending email invites to your mailing list, and simply add elected officials to



the general email invite, that's fine.

But if you want to specifically target some elected officials with personalized invites, then we have to get involved and discuss the language of the invite, who sends it, balancing invitations across all parties, etc.

I understand why it's super important for elected officials to be in this event, so I apologize for not discussing this with you earlier. We'll make it work...we'll just need to add a layer of VPL approvals to the process.

Easiest thing to get the ball rolling: send me a draft of the email invitation you want to send, and the list of dignitaries you want to invite.

I'll check with my supervisors and get back to you with next steps.

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
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**From:** Jorge Amigo  
**Sent:** February 21, 2023 12:23 PM  
**To:** Brendan Dawe  
**Subject:** Re: [External] Re: RRe: Nolan Gray at VPL

Yes, since we're part of the City of Vancouver, any invitation to elected officials needs to come directly from us, and be approved by VPL leadership.

We also then have to involve library trustees in the event, to represent the library.

Let me know who you're thinking of inviting and we'll come up with a plan.

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
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**From:** Brendan Dawe <s.22(1)>  
**Sent:** February 21, 2023 12:08 PM  
**To:** Jorge Amigo  
**Subject:** [External] Re: RRe: Nolan Gray at VPL  
Can you elaborate?

On Tue, Feb 21, 2023 at 12:08 PM Jorge Amigo <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)> wrote:

Glad you brought that up! We have policies and protocols for dignitaries, so do let me know who you want to invite, before you send invites.

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

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**From:** Brendan Dawe <s.22(1)>  
**Sent:** February 21, 2023 12:04 PM  
**To:** Jorge Amigo  
**Subject:** [External] Re: Nolan Gray at VPL  
Excellent

AHV is promoting to our networks and drafting emails to a number of dignitaries we'd like to invite as well

Regards,

On Tue, Feb 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM Jorge Amigo <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)> wrote:

Hi Brendan, hope you had a relaxing long weekend!

\*drumroll\*

The event listing is now live!

[Nolan Gray: How Zoning Broke the City and How to Fix It](#)

We've made 220 seats available, and have 42 registered so far. If we get close to selling out, I'll chat with you about overselling the event (there's always 20-40% no-shows) and explain how we handle the waitlist and standby line.

Next up on my end: promote, promote, promote!

I'll get a Facebook Event up soon, and add Abundant Housing and Happy Cities as co-hosts. I'll share the link here when ready.

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming



Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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---

**From:** Jorge Amigo

**Sent:** February 15, 2023 5:24 PM

**To:** Brendan Dawe

**Subject:** Re: [External] Re: Moderator

Awesome edits, thanks!

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)

Head of Cultural Programming

Vancouver Public Library

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**From:** Brendan Dawe <[s.22\(1\)](#)>

**Sent:** February 15, 2023 5:19 PM

**To:** Jorge Amigo

**Subject:** Re: [External] Re: Moderator

Great, I'll circulate this and get back to you asap

quick suggestions in **red**

### **Nolan Gray: How Zoning Broke the City and How to Fix It**

Across North America, cities are facing severe housing shortages, racial and economic segregation, and more car-dependent development. Many planners, **activists, and elected officials** across the continent have realized that a key answer to these common problems revolves around one flawed policy: zoning.

Join us for a conversation with city planner **Nolan Gray** about his new book *Arbitrary Lines*, where he argues that **reforming** zoning rules is necessary for

building more **affordable, vibrant**, equitable, and sustainable cities.

He will appear in conversation with journalist **Frances Bula**, who specializes in urban issues and city politics in the Vancouver region, which she's covered since 1994.

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*This event is presented in partnership with Abundant Housing Vancouver and Happy Cities.*

On Wed, Feb 15, 2023 at 5:12 PM Jorge Amigo <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)> wrote:

Hi Brendan, here's the draft copy for the event listing. If you have any edits, please make suggestions. I'll aim to submit this for publication tomorrow by EOD. (I'll likely add the presenter bios at the end, but just grabbing those from their websites)

### **Nolan Gray: How Zoning Broke the City and How to Fix It**

Across North America, cities are facing severe housing shortages, racial and economic segregation, and more car-dependent development. Many planners across the continent have realized that a key answer to these common problems revolves around one flawed policy: zoning.

Join us for a conversation with city planner **Nolan Gray** about his new book *Arbitrary Lines*, where he argues that abolishing zoning rules is necessary for building more vibrant, affordable, equitable, and sustainable cities.

He will appear in conversation with journalist **Frances Bula**, who specializes in urban issues and city politics in the Vancouver region, which she's covered since 1994.



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*This event is presented in partnership with Abundant Housing Vancouver and Happy Cities.*

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

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**From:** Brendan Dawe <[s.22\(1\)](#)>

**Sent:** February 10, 2023 2:50 PM

**To:** Jorge Amigo

**Subject:** Re: [External] Re: Moderator

1. Excellent on the book warehouse,
2. Title: "Nolan Gray: How Zoning Broke the City and How to Fix It" sounds sorta hook-y to me and referential to the book
3. that sounds reasonable re-sponsors.

Cheers,

Brendan

On Thu, Feb 9, 2023 at 5:22 PM Jorge Amigo <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)> wrote:

Hi Brendan, another update:

I've just confirmed that **Black Bond/Book Warehouse** as the **booksellers** for the event. They'll bring plenty of copies for folks to

purchase the book and get it signed by Nolan!

I'm a bit delayed on getting you some draft copy for the event listing, and I'm off to Chicago to see my family for the weekend.

But two questions for you to ponder in the meantime:

**1) Title:**

We can go with a simple event title like *Nolan Gray: Arbitrary Lines*, but I feel that it's not evocative enough.

My approach with a dry subject like zoning is to be a bit click-baity to get people to come.

I'd prefer to go with something a bit punchier like:

- *Nolan Gray: How Zoning Ruins Cities*
- *Do Zoning Rules Ruin Cities?*
- *Why Zoning Rules Keep our Cities from Thriving / How Zoning Breaks Our Cities*

What do you think?

**2) Partnership statement:**

For our partnered events, we usually add a line or two at the end explaining the partnership. Something like:

*This event is presented in partnership with Abundant Housing Vancouver and Happy Cities.*

Let me know how this sounds, or if there's a better way to represent your role.

On my end, as soon as I get back on Tuesday, I'll finish the event description draft, and send it over to you. We can aim to have the listing up by Friday Feb 17, which gives us a month to promo (we usually aim for 2-3 weeks).

Alright...logging off until Tuesday.

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**From:** Brendan Dawe <[s.22\(1\)](#)>  
**Sent:** February 2, 2023 4:50 PM  
**To:** Jorge Amigo  
**Subject:** [External] Re: Moderator  
Excellent!

On Thu, Feb 2, 2023 at 4:48 PM Jorge Amigo <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)> wrote:

Hi all, quick update: Frances Bula is in!

I'll follow-up with event listing details soon.

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**From:** Jorge Amigo  
**Sent:** February 1, 2023 10:09 AM  
**To:** Brendan Dawe  
**Cc:** [info@abundanthousingvancouver.com](mailto:info@abundanthousingvancouver.com); Brendan Dawe  
**Subject:** Re: Moderator

Hi Brendan, thanks for the update! After our call yesterday and doing

more reading, I was also leaning towards Frances as my top choice.  
Glad we agree!

I'll touch base and invite her now. If she's unavailable, I'll move on to Jen. I'll also take care of sending Frances/Jen the book.

Touch base when I confirm someone. Next up will be creating an event listing, so I'll explain those details later.

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

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**From:** Brendan Dawe <[bdawe@urbanics.com](mailto:bdawe@urbanics.com)>  
**Sent:** February 1, 2023 9:58 AM  
**To:** Jorge Amigo  
**Cc:** [info@abundanthousingvancouver.com](mailto:info@abundanthousingvancouver.com); Brendan Dawe  
**Subject:** [External] Moderator

Hi Jorge,

After talking it over with AHV, I think Frances Bula would be a definite favourite. Followed by Jen St. Denis who I though provide a more skeptical (good) viewpoint.



**Brendan Dawe**

**Associate**

**Urbanics Consultants Ltd.**

C: (778) 988-4722

W: (604) 669-2724

E: [bdawe@urbanics.com](mailto:bdawe@urbanics.com)  
[www.urbanics.com](http://www.urbanics.com)

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Cheers,

Brendan

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Cheers,

Brendan

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Cheers,

Brendan

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Cheers,

Brendan

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Cheers,

Brendan

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Cheers,

Brendan

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Cheers,

Brendan

**From:** "Brendan Dawe" <[bdawe@urbanics.com](mailto:bdawe@urbanics.com)>  
**To:** "Jorge Amigo" <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)>  
**Date:** 1/12/2023 1:54:13 PM  
**Subject:** [External] RE: Nolan Gray VPL Chat

Great

Passcode is "Nolan"

Brendan Dawe is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Brendan Dawe's Zoom Meeting

Time: Jan 13, 2023 02:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/85749550640?pwd=K2FHTVBwWVQ5NHRTN0tDcStkNVZlUT09>

Meeting ID: 857 4955 0640

Passcode: Nolan

**Brendan Dawe**

**Associate**

**Urbanics Consultants Ltd.**

C: (778) 988-4722

W: (604) 669-2724

E: [bdawe@urbanics.com](mailto:bdawe@urbanics.com)

[www.urbanics.com](http://www.urbanics.com)

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-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Jorge Amigo

**Sent:** January 12, 2023 1:24 PM

**To:** Brendan Dawe

**Subject:** Accepted: Nolan Gray VPL Chat

**When:** January 13, 2023 2:30 PM-3:00 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada).

**Where:** Call

Great! Let's do a Zoom call...

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)

Head of Cultural Programming

Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**From:** ["Malashewsky, Megan"](mailto:malashewsky@ubcpres.ca) <malashewsky@ubcpres.ca>  
**To:** ["Jorge Amigo"](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca) <Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca>  
**Date:** 2/22/2023 4:29:32 PM  
**Subject:** [External] RE: Request for book for VPL event, March 15

Hi Jorge,

That's great news about Black Bond. I see their order in our system. It's listed as a back order currently, but my stock transfer went through last week, so I expect stock to arrive in Toronto next week, which means we should have plenty of time to get stock to the event.

I can also see that Frances' copy should arrive Friday. [Tracking info](#).

Please let me know if there's anything else I can do to help prep for the event. Thanks for organizing it!  
Megan

---

**From:** Jorge Amigo  
**Sent:** February 22, 2023 3:14 PM  
**To:** Malashewsky, Megan  
**Subject:** Re: Request for book for VPL event, March 15  
[CAUTION: Non-UBC Email]

Hi Megan, hope you had a relaxing Family Day long weekend. I have three quick updates for you:

- Black Bond/Book Warehouse has agreed to be the bookseller for the event!
- Here's the [event listing](#) and [Facebook event](#), in case you want to spread the word
- Frances just wrote asking when she should be receiving the review copy you are kindly sending. Lmk if you have an update (or a tracking number, so I get this off your plate).

Thanks again for your support with this!

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library  
VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)  
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**From:** Jorge Amigo  
**Sent:** February 9, 2023 3:26 PM  
**To:** Malashewsky, Megan  
**Subject:** Re: Request for book for VPL event, March 15

Ahh great to hear that it's an option for you or someone from your team to attend! I'll keep you posted on what Black Bond says. Thanks a ton!



**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)

Head of Cultural Programming

Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**From:** Malashewsky, Megan <[malashewsky@ubcpres.ca](mailto:malashewsky@ubcpres.ca)>

**Sent:** February 9, 2023 3:06 PM

**To:** Jorge Amigo

**Subject:** [External] RE: Request for book for VPL event, March 15

That sounds great! I reached out to Island Press and am crossing my fingers we can get books to Canada on time. I'm confident we can. I've also asked our distributor to add *Arbitrary Lines* to Pubstock so bookstores see us as the Canadian distributor.

Have a great week, too!

Megan

P.S. We like local bookstores to have first dibs, but if you can't find a bookseller for the event, please let me know. I can find someone from UBC Press to attend with our POS machine, or I can attend myself. That is, if we have books!

---

**From:** Jorge Amigo <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)>

**Sent:** February 9, 2023 2:34 PM

**To:** Malashewsky, Megan <[malashewsky@ubcpres.ca](mailto:malashewsky@ubcpres.ca)>

**Subject:** Re: Request for book for VPL event, March 15

[CAUTION: Non-UBC

Email]

Thanks for explaining! This solves my confusion :)

I'll chat with Black Bond in a bit, and hopefully they are able to get enough copies to make this worth their time.

Have a lovely rest of the week.

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)

Head of Cultural Programming

Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**From:** Malashewsky, Megan <[malashewsky@ubcpres.ca](mailto:malashewsky@ubcpres.ca)>

**Sent:** February 9, 2023 12:45 PM

**To:** Jorge Amigo

**Subject:** [External] RE: Request for book for VPL event, March 15

Hi Jorge,

I just received an email from Ampersand about this title, asking about the availability. It appears Black

Bond was in touch with them. I'll confirm that we are able to order the book in, and it won't be as expensive as ordering through Island directly.  
Bookstores don't always see UBC Press listed as the distributor because it costs us money to list each ISBN. So, we're only able to pay to list trade titles, and this one wasn't included. I will ask our distributor to list it, but it might take a day or two for bookstores to see us as the distributor.  
I hope this helps—sorry it's such a pain, but thank you for reaching out. I'll make sure the bookstores know they can get it through us.

Megan

---

**From:** Jorge Amigo <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)>

**Sent:** February 9, 2023 11:37 AM

**To:** Malashewsky, Megan <[malashewsky@ubcpres.ca](mailto:malashewsky@ubcpres.ca)>; Kilmartin, Kerry <[kilmartin@ubcpres.ca](mailto:kilmartin@ubcpres.ca)>

**Subject:** Re: Request for book for VPL event, March 15

[CAUTION: Non-UBC  
Email]

Hi Megan, quick question. I've tried inviting a couple of local booksellers (Upstart & Crow and Black Bond) to sell books at this event, and they've both declined, saying that the book is distributed by Island Press, and it's too expensive for them to bring copies to Vancouver.

I'm confused, since I thought UBC Press is the Canadian distributor, and local booksellers would know they can order from you. Your message below about ordering more copies made total sense to me...what am I missing?

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)

Head of Cultural Programming

Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**From:** Malashewsky, Megan <[malashewsky@ubcpres.ca](mailto:malashewsky@ubcpres.ca)>

**Sent:** February 6, 2023 9:50 AM

**To:** Kilmartin, Kerry; Jorge Amigo

**Subject:** [External] RE: Request for book for VPL event, March 15

Hi Jorge,

I'd be happy to send a copy to Frances Bula and to your team. We currently have 15 copies in stock, so I'll ask my colleague to bring more in anticipation of a bookstore sale! This sounds like a fantastic event.

All the very best,

Megan

**Megan Malashewsky**

Agency and Digital Marketing Coordinator

UBC Press

The University of British Columbia | Vancouver Campus | Musqueam Traditional Territory

2029 West Mall | Vancouver BC | V6T 1Z2 Canada



[malashewsky@ubcpres.ca](mailto:malashewsky@ubcpres.ca)  
<https://www.ubcpres.ca>

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**From:** Kilmartin, Kerry <[kilmartin@ubcpres.ca](mailto:kilmartin@ubcpres.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 6, 2023 9:35 AM  
**To:** Jorge Amigo <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)>  
**Cc:** Malashewsky, Megan <[malashewsky@ubcpres.ca](mailto:malashewsky@ubcpres.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Request for book for VPL event, March 15

Hello Jorge,

Many thanks for getting in touch. I've contacted my colleague Megan Malashewsky, she will be able to arrange having the review copy sent to you.

The best of luck with the event.

Kerry

\*\*\*

**Kerry Kilmartin**  
UBC Press, Publicist & Events Manager  
x̣ṃəθḳẉəỵəm Musqueam Traditional Territory  
2029 West Mall, Vancouver, BC Canada V6T 1Z2  
[ubcpres.ca](mailto:ubcpres.ca) | [@ubcpres](mailto:@ubcpres) | [kerrykilmartin](mailto:kerrykilmartin) | 604.314.2081 (cell)  
*Celebrating over 50 years of thought that counts*



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**From:** Jorge Amigo <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 4, 2023 4:40 PM  
**To:** Kilmartin, Kerry <[kilmartin@ubcpres.ca](mailto:kilmartin@ubcpres.ca)>  
**Subject:** Request for book for VPL event, March 15  
[CAUTION: Non-UBC Email]

Hello Kerry, and nice to meet you. My name is Jorge and I'm the Head of Cultural Programming at the Vancouver Public Library.

I'm organizing an event on March 15 with **Nolan Gray** about his recent book, [Arbitrary Lines](#), and it looks like UBC Press is the Canadian distributor. I'm writing to ask if you would be able to send a review copy of the book to the event moderator/interviewer, [Frances Bula](#), and another one to me, so we can prepare for the event.

My intention is to invite a local bookseller to sell books at the event, so they'll likely be reaching out to your team soon to order many copies.

Speaking of many copies, the event will be held at our largest venue, the Alice MacKay Room, which seats 220 people. To properly program an event on such a hot topic, I've arranged a partnership between VPL, Abundant Housing Vancouver, and

the Happy City for this event, so we're expecting a full-house!

Anyway, if you are indeed able to send Frances a copy of the book, I would be very grateful. Here's her address:

s.22(1)



And if it's ok to also get one for my team (so we are prepared in case Frances gets sick the day before), my address is:

*Attn: Jorge Amigo (Level 6 workroom)*

*Vancouver Public Library — Central Library*

*350 West Georgia St*

*Vancouver BC V6B 6B1*

Hope you're having a nice rainy February :)

P.S. if you're interested in helping to promote the event, I'll be happy to share the event listing when it goes live.

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)

Head of Cultural Programming

Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**From:** ["Brendan Dawe" <bdawe@urbanics.com>](mailto:bdawe@urbanics.com)  
**To:** [mnolangray@gmail.com](mailto:mnolangray@gmail.com)  
["Jorge Amigo" <Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca>](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)  
**CC:** ["Brendan Dawe" <s.22\(1\) >](mailto:info@abundanthousingvancouver.com)  
[info@abundanthousingvancouver.com](mailto:info@abundanthousingvancouver.com)  
**Date:** 1/17/2023 11:01:52 AM  
**Subject:** [External] VPL-AHV-Nolan Gray Introductions

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Hi Jorge & Nolan

Pleased to introduce the two of you. Nolan is the author of *Arbitrary Lines*, and has been an innovative voice in the urbanist community for housing reform. Jorge is the Cultural Programming director for the Vancouver Public Library.

The Library and AHV are interested in partnering to bring Nolan to Vancouver for a talk at the VPL that would be an official library event. Jorge and I have discussed some of the logistical issues, and identified March 15 and April 29<sup>th</sup> as tentatively available dates. The library would be handling programming and promotion, AHV would be handling travel and accommodation.

If this is something that we're able to get going we can start making bookings.

Look forward to working with all of you.

**Brendan Dawe**

C: (778) 988-4722

W: (604) 669-2724

E: [bdawe@urbanics.com](mailto:bdawe@urbanics.com)

[www.urbanics.com](http://www.urbanics.com)

**From:** "Fraser, Scott" <[scott.fraser@vpl.ca](mailto:scott.fraser@vpl.ca)>  
**To:** "Jorge Amigo" <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)>  
"Erin Watkins" <[Erin.Watkins@vpl.ca](mailto:Erin.Watkins@vpl.ca)>  
**Date:** 2/23/2023 1:47:31 PM  
**Subject:** FW: protocol for inviting council and Mayor to VPL event?

FYI. Carol and I see this the same way Jorge does, but because it is a new mayor and council, she is checking with Christina this afternoon.

Cheers!

Scott

**From:** Carol Nelson  
**Sent:** February 23, 2023 1:24 PM  
**To:** Scott Fraser  
**Subject:** RE: protocol for inviting council and Mayor to VPL event?  
I'm inclined to your position. I am meeting w Christina at 2 and will check on her thoughts

**From:** Scott Fraser <[Scott.Fraser@vpl.ca](mailto:Scott.Fraser@vpl.ca)>  
**Sent:** February 22, 2023 4:38 PM  
**To:** Carol Nelson <[Carol.Nelson@vpl.ca](mailto:Carol.Nelson@vpl.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: protocol for inviting council and Mayor to VPL event?

Hi Carol,

Can you give an opinion on this?

Basically a partner on an author talk really wants to send an invite to Mayor and Council. Jorge has told them to pump the brakes until he gets an answer on protocol.

I would tend towards not sending something from us, as it may be interpreted as we think that Council "really needs to see this event", which is about zoning and urbanism. Probably not a topic we want to spend our points on. However CdC may see it differently.

What do you think?

SF

**From:** Jorge Amigo  
**Sent:** February 22, 2023 3:04 PM  
**To:** Scott Fraser <[Scott.Fraser@vpl.ca](mailto:Scott.Fraser@vpl.ca)>  
**Cc:** Erin Watkins <[Erin.Watkins@vpl.ca](mailto:Erin.Watkins@vpl.ca)>  
**Subject:** protocol for inviting council and Mayor to VPL event?

Hi Scott, I have an update about the question I had yesterday re: protocol for inviting elected local officials to an event.

- [The event](#) is on March 15 about city zoning rules, with an urbanist from the US called Nolan Gray.

- we're presenting this in partnership with two local orgs: [Abundant Housing Vancouver](#) and [Happy Cities](#)

Abundant Housing drafted the email invitation below for Council and the Mayor. I've told them to hold off on sending this, because we have protocols for this invitation, and that I'll explain next steps.

I agree with our partner that it's important to directly invite Council and the Mayor, but what's the protocol for this?

Do we need to draft our own letter, and ask Christina to send it?

Or can we bypass that if the invitation comes simply from them? In other words, edit the letter so it doesn't say "on behalf of VPL"? Something like this:

Abundant Housing Vancouver and Happy Cities would like to invite you to attend an in-person speaker event "Nolan Gray: How Zoning Broke the City and How to Fix It" on the evening of Wednesday, March 15th, hosted by the Vancouver Public Library.

How should I handle this?

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)

Head of Cultural Programming

Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**From:** Brendan Dawe s.22(1)

**Sent:** February 21, 2023 7:43 PM

**To:** Jorge Amigo

**Subject:** [External] Re: Nolan Gray at VPL

Hi Jorge:

In particular we're looking at the mayor & council. Stuart drafted up the following:

Dear [Mayor/Councillor] [Last Name],

On behalf of Abundant Housing Vancouver, Vancouver Public Libraries and Happy Cities, we would like to invite you to attend our in-person speaker event "[Nolan Gray: How Zoning Broke the City and How to Fix It](#)" on the evening of Wednesday, March 15th.

Nolan Gray was recently a researcher at UCLA, is a planner, and currently is the research director at California YIMBY. Frances Bula and he will discuss his new book *Arbitrary Lines*, which describes the problems caused by zoning and approaches to addressing them. You can find out more about the book in [this interview](#) with the American Planning Association.

Please RSVP on VPL's website, [here](#). On behalf of all of us, I hope you can make it!

Sincerely,

Stuart Smith

Director at Abundant Housing Vancouver

Cheers,

Brendan

| |

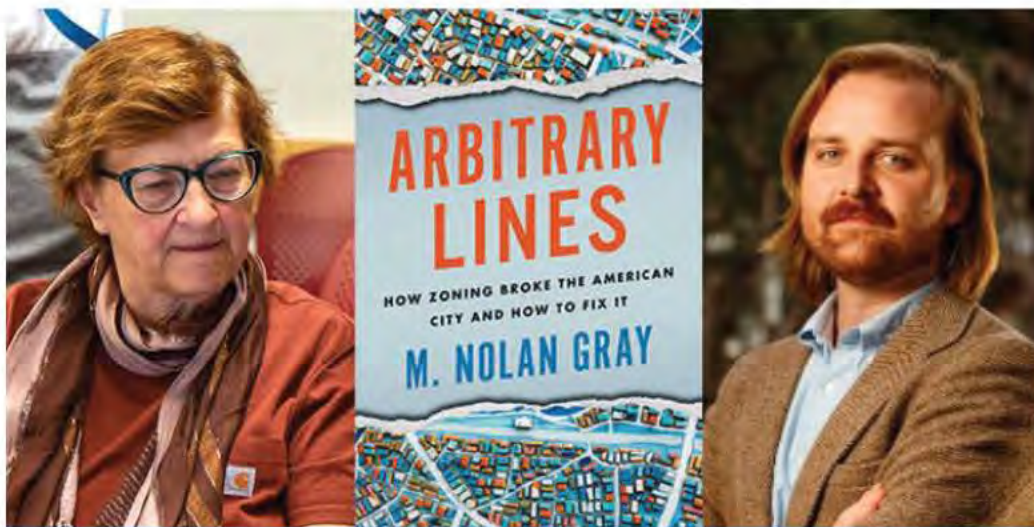


# Nolan Gray: How Zoning Broke the City and How to Fix It

Wednesday, March 15

7 – 8:30 pm

Central Library, Alice MacKay Room



FREE

For Adults

Registration required

To register, go to  
[vpl.ca/events](https://vpl.ca/events)

City planner **Nolan Gray** joins us to discuss his new book *Arbitrary Lines*, where he explains why reforming zoning laws is fundamental for building more affordable, vibrant, equitable, and sustainable cities.

He will appear in conversation with urban affairs journalist **Frances Bula**.



For more information: 604.331.3603 | [vpl.ca/events](https://vpl.ca/events)

Join the conversation: @VPL /vancouverpubliclibrary

In partnership with:





## March 15 — Nolan Gray: How Zoning Broke the City and How to Fix It

Hello and welcome to the Alice MacKay Room at the Vancouver Public Library. My name is Jorge Amigo and I'm the Head of Cultural Programming here at VPL.

Before we begin, I want to **acknowledge** that we are hosting this event from the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Musqueam, the Squamish and the Tsleil-Waututh. I want to share that I'm an **immigrant from Mexico** and therefore a **settler in these lands**, which means I have a responsibility to continually learn about the ongoing effects of colonialism in this part of the world, and to take **sincere actions towards decolonization**, especially in my work as a public servant.

I cannot tell you how thrilled I am to see a full house tonight for this event. This is exactly what a library is for. To be a **forum for new ideas**, and to bring people **together** to discuss the most important issues of our time. This is exactly why I got into public programming, so it's an absolute pleasure for me to welcome you here tonight.

Quick show of hands: who is here for the very first time? And who has been to a library event in the last year?

Now, a couple housekeeping notes:

If you need to exit the room during the event, please use either of these doors. You can leave and re-enter anytime. The closest washrooms are located to the right of these doors.

And PLEASE take a moment right now to silence your phones...you don't need to turn them off. In fact: I encourage you to take photos or videos during the event, and share them on your social media. Please please tag VPL and tell the world you came to a cool library event!

Tonight we're here to talk about something that affects all of us: **zoning laws**. Now, I know this might not sound like the most riveting thing to discuss, especially for those of us who are not urban policy nerds, but the implications of zoning are enormous for the shape of our cities. So whichever side of this debate you're on, **whether you love or hate zoning**, my hope is that tonight you'll leave with a better understanding of how zoning affects your life, and the lives of everyone you know.

Now, I want to thank two organizations that made it possible for Nolan to be in Vancouver today: **Abundant Housing Vancouver**, and **Happy Cities**. Thank you so much for your support.

On that note, I'm going to hand over the mic to **Brendan Dawe**, who is an economist and urban planning consultant, and one of the co-founders of **Abundant Housing Vancouver**.

—

Thanks Brendan. And now it's my pleasure to introduce tonight's speakers:

**Nolan Gray** is a professional city planner and an expert in urban land-use regulation. He is currently completing a Ph.D. in urban planning at UCLA. Gray previously worked on the front lines of zoning as a planner in New York City. He now serves as an Affiliated Scholar with the Mercatus Center at George Mason University, where he advises state and local policymakers on land-use policy. He is a widely published author, whose work has appeared in top publications like The Atlantic, Bloomberg Citylab, and The Guardian.

**Frances Bula** is a journalist specializing in urban issues and city politics in the Vancouver region, which she's covered since 1994. She's an urban affairs contributor to The Globe and Mail, and has written regularly for many publications, including the Vancouver Sun (where she worked for 20 years). Frances also teaches at the UBC School of Journalism.

They're going to talk for about 40 minutes, and then we'll open it up to questions from the audience. Frances, take it away!

– closing remarks –

Thank you everyone for being here. Thank you to Frances and Nolan for this conversation.

And thank you Frances for translating and summarizing audience questions.

I have to say, I've hosted more than 300 events in my career, and this was the most sophisticated, knowledgeable Q&A I've ever witnessed. So thank you for enriching the discussion, and thanks for sharing some important personal stories!

I want to take back something I said earlier. It turns out that a discussion about zoning can be riveting. Who knew?!

Now, our friends from Book Warehouse are here selling copies of the book. So if you want to dive deeper into this conversation, go get yourself a copy. Nolan will be sitting at the table over there signing books.

Also, if you want to keep chatting with Nolan, the folks from Abundant Housing are hosting a pub night right after this event, at 9pm at Brown's at the QE Theatre.

Before I let you go, I want to tell you about a couple events coming up soon here at VPL.

Next Wednesday, March 22, we're hosting a conversation between two doctors who are also authors: Vincent Lam and Daniel Kalla. This event will be about Vincent Lam's new novel, which deals with the opioid epidemic and the impact of addictions. This event is in partnership with the Vancouver Writers Festival, as part of a series we host here at VPL called INCITE.

And the Wednesday after that, March 29, we're hosting a conversation with Governor General Award winning Inuk writer **Norma Dunning**, about her new memoir *Kinauvit?*, where she uncovers the history of the Eskimo Disk System, which was a tool of colonization that reduced Inuit identity to a mere number. She'll be in conversation with another Governor General Award winner, Darrel McLeod.

And then starting in April, we'll kick off our Uplift Asian series, which celebrates Asian cultures and perspectives, and serves to push back against anti-Asian racism in our communities. So stay tuned for the full lineup coming in a few days.

I hope you can join us again! That's all I got. Thanks for coming, and have a good night!



**From:** "Jorge Amigo" <Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca>  
**To:** "Brendan Dawe" <s.22(1)>  
**Date:** 5/18/2023 5:14:58 PM  
**Subject:** Re: [External] Re: Nolan Gray at VPL?

Hi Brendan, and happy new year to you!

Yes, I can chat tomorrow at around 2 or 3pm. Let me know if either time works for you.

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**From:** Brendan Dawe  
**Sent:** January 11, 2023 10:05 AM  
**To:** Jorge Amigo  
**Subject:** [External] Re: Nolan Gray at VPL?  
Hi Jorge,

Hope you had a good new year. Would you be available for a brief chat on this topic soon?

Regards ,

Brendan

On Fri, Dec 16, 2022 at 2:48 PM Brendan Dawe <s.22(1)> wrote:  
Very good, I'll chat with you in the new year

Thanks

Brendan

On Fri, Dec 16, 2022 at 2:47 PM Jorge Amigo <Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca> wrote:  
Hi Brendan, nice to connect with you.

I'm off on vacation tomorrow and back Jan 6, so let's pick up this conversation in the new year!

I'll explain how we work with authors and bring them to VPL, and would love to hear what your conversations with Nolan have been like.

Have a great holiday break!

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

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**From:** Brendan Dawe <s.22(1)>

**Sent:** December 12, 2022 11:45 AM

**To:** Brendan Dawe; Jorge Amigo

**Subject:** [External] Nolan

Hi Jorge,

I can be reached at 778 988 4722 when your back in the office to discuss Nolan Grey

Thanks

Brendan

--

Cheers,

Brendan

--

Cheers,

Brendan

--

Cheers,

Brendan

**From:** "Jorge Amigo" <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)>  
**To:** "Brendan Dawe" <[s.22\(1\)](#)>  
**Date:** 5/18/2023 5:14:58 PM  
**Subject:** Re: [External] Re: Reminder email

awesome!

(it's just a logistical nightmare for us, because we'll get lots of folks asking for more details...and those queries will go to the general VPL info line, and those folks have no details about events other than what's on the listing. So eventually all the queries land on my desk or I start getting phone calls from info desk librarians)

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

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**From:** Brendan Dawe  
**Sent:** March 14, 2023 12:41 PM  
**To:** Jorge Amigo  
**Subject:** [External] Re: Reminder email  
Nah I'm fine to leave it that way. Was my preference but others were suggesting

On Tue, Mar 14, 2023 at 12:39 PM Jorge Amigo <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)> wrote:  
Not ideal. It's best if you announce the exact details of that during the event. Happy to explain over the phone.

Automated message goes out 24 hrs before the event, so at 7pm today.

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

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**From:** Brendan Dawe <[s.22\(1\)](#)>  
**Sent:** March 14, 2023 12:28 PM  
**To:** Jorge Amigo  
**Subject:** [External] Reminder email  
Hi Jorge,

If you haven't sent out a reminder email, could it mention that there will be an after-event to follow to be announced

--

Cheers,

Brendan

--

Cheers,

Brendan



**From:** "Jorge Amigo" <[Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)>  
**To:** "Brendan Dawe" <[bdawe@urbanics.com](mailto:bdawe@urbanics.com)>  
"Nolan Gray" <[mnolangray@gmail.com](mailto:mnolangray@gmail.com)>  
**CC:** "Brendan Dawe" <[bdawe@urbanics.com](mailto:bdawe@urbanics.com)>  
[info@abundanthousingvancouver.com](mailto:info@abundanthousingvancouver.com)  
**Date:** 5/18/2023 5:14:58 PM  
**Subject:** Re: [External] Re: VPL-AHV-Nolan Gray Introductions

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Yes, good point! I'll take care to find a local bookseller for this. (we can sort out the production details separately, and keep Nolan's inbox less busy!)

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

[VPL on Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**From:** Brendan Dawe  
**Sent:** January 18, 2023 4:12 PM  
**To:** Jorge Amigo; Nolan Gray  
**Cc:** Brendan Dawe; [info@abundanthousingvancouver.com](mailto:info@abundanthousingvancouver.com)  
**Subject:** RE: [External] Re: VPL-AHV-Nolan Gray Introductions  
Hi Jorge and Nolan,

The 15<sup>th</sup> is great for AHV, so glad to hear we've got that nailed down.

As soon as we know how long Nolan you would like to be in Town we can book airfare for you. Is there anything you'd like to see while you're here that we might be able to help you with? We're also happy to put together some recommendations.

Jorge, the format sounds good. I think we'd like to have 5-10 minutes to speak. Jorge, you'd previously suggested that we see if a local book seller would be interested in furnishing a signing/sales table. Is there someone you'd recommend from past experience?

Cheers,

**Brendan Dawe**  
Associate  
Urbanics Consultants Ltd.

C: (778) 988-4722

W: (604) 669-2724

E: [bdawe@urbanics.com](mailto:bdawe@urbanics.com)

[www.urbanics.com](http://www.urbanics.com)

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**From:** Jorge Amigo  
**Sent:** January 18, 2023 3:40 PM  
**To:** Nolan Gray; Brendan Dawe  
**Cc:** Brendan Dawe; [info@abundanthousingvancouver.com](mailto:info@abundanthousingvancouver.com)  
**Subject:** Re: [External] Re: VPL-AHV-Nolan Gray Introductions  
Hello Brenan and Nolan, and great to connect!



Nolan: great to hear you're willing to come to Vancouver, and that the dates work.

I also have a slight preference for **March 15**, so let's agree on this date.

I've just reserved our events venue for this, so we're good to start planning next steps:

**Format:**

I propose we do an author interview, between Nolan and a suitable local moderator. The general agenda that we usually aim for is a 60 min event, broken up like this:

- 5 min intro

- 40 min conversation with author

- 15 mins of audience Q&A

We can expand this to a 75 min event, and either have a longer Q&A, or have you do a 10 min presentation at the beginning.

My sense is that for a complex topic like zoning, it would be more valuable for the audience to hear a presentation from Nolan, so everyone in the room is introduced to the same knowledge/concepts, and then we move to a conversation between the author and moderator, and end with a Q&A.

Let me know how this all sounds. Here's a [playlist](#) with similar recent events we've done.

**Moderator:**

In consultation with Brendan, I'll work on finding a suitable moderator. We usually aim for journalists or broadcasters who can translate specialize knowledge to a general audience, and move along a conversation.

We could also look for an academic from one of our local planning schools, or someone who has worked for the city planning department. Or an advocate whose work is related to zoning. Other than familiarity with the topic, the skill I'm really looking for is their stage presence and ability to interview someone live.

**Event promotion:**

Nolan: when you have a sec, please send over a headshot and the cover image of your book. And let me know if this [bio](#) on your publisher page is good for me to use.

Once I have those and we confirm a moderator, I'll create an event listing on the VPL website and will keep you posted.

That's all I got for now! Looking forward to hosting you in Vancouver, Nolan, and partnering with you on this, Brendan!

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)

Head of Cultural Programming

Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**From:** Nolan Gray <[mnolangray@gmail.com](mailto:mnolangray@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** January 17, 2023 12:21 PM

**To:** Brendan Dawe

**Cc:** Jorge Amigo; Brendan Dawe; [info@abundanthousingvancouver.com](mailto:info@abundanthousingvancouver.com)

**Subject:** [External] Re: VPL-AHV-Nolan Gray Introductions

Howdy Brandon, thanks for making the connection.

Hi Jorge, nice to be meeting you. I'd be happy to come and chat. (I suspect the housing

situation in BC isn't all that different from here in California.) Either of those dates work, with a slight preference for March.

Do let me know if you need anything else from me.

Best,

Nolan

On Tue, Jan 17, 2023 at 11:01 AM Brendan Dawe <[bdawe@urbanics.com](mailto:bdawe@urbanics.com)> wrote:

Hi Jorge & Nolan

Pleased to introduce the two of you. Nolan is the author of *Arbitrary Lines*, and has been an innovative voice in the urbanist community for housing reform. Jorge is the Cultural Programming director for the Vancouver Public Library.

The Library and AHV are interested in partnering to bring Nolan to Vancouver for a talk at the VPL that would be an official library event. Jorge and I have discussed some of the logistical issues, and identified March 15 and April 29<sup>th</sup> as tentatively available dates. The library would be handling programming and promotion, AHV would be handling travel and accommodation.

If this is something that we're able to get going we can start making bookings.

Look forward to working with all of you.

**Brendan Dawe**

C: (778) 988-4722

W: (604) 669-2724

E: [bdawe@urbanics.com](mailto:bdawe@urbanics.com)

[www.urbanics.com](http://www.urbanics.com)

--

Matthew Nolan Gray

[mnolangray@gmail.com](mailto:mnolangray@gmail.com)

Cell: (859)519-0690



**From:** "Jorge Amigo" <Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca>  
**To:** "Brendan Dawe" <bdawe@urbanics.com>  
**Date:** 5/18/2023 5:14:58 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Brendan + Jorge chat

<https://vpl-ca.zoom.us/j/2624987838>

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

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**From:** Brendan Dawe  
**Sent:** January 24, 2023 3:41 PM  
**To:** Jorge Amigo  
**Subject:** [External] Accepted: Brendan + Jorge chat  
**When:** January 31, 2023 1:00 PM-1:30 PM.  
**Where:** phone call

**From:** "Jorge Amigo" <Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca>  
**To:** "Frances Bula" <francesbula@gmail.com>  
mnolangray@gmail.com  
**CC:** "Brendan Dawe" <s.22(1)>  
"Tanaka, Candie" <Candie.Tanaka@vpl.ca>  
"Dylan Schroeder" <Dylan.Schroeder@vpl.ca>  
charles@happycities.com  
**Date:** 5/18/2023 5:14:58 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Details for VPL event, March 15

Hi all, quick note to say THANK YOU for the event last week.

Nolan, you're an endless well of knowledge! Frances, what a masterful way of handling the conversation, connecting the dots, and representing the other side of the argument that wasn't present in the room.

Brendan, thanks for all the logistical help with bringing Nolan, and getting a full house. And Charles, thanks for hosting Nolan.

You were all a delight to work with!

P.S. Btw, you can find the recording on this [playlist](#) in VPL's YouTube channel.

P.P.S. Nolan, glad to see you had such a full trip, and got to connect with lots of city experts here.

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

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**From:** Jorge Amigo  
**Sent:** March 10, 2023 4:08 PM  
**To:** Frances Bula; mnolangray@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Brendan Dawe; Candie Tanaka; Dylan Schroeder; charles@happycities.com  
**Subject:** Details for VPL event, March 15

Hello **Nolan** and **Frances** and happy Friday! I'm excited about our event next Wednesday, and hope you are, too.

I'll be hosting the event, and my colleagues **Candie** and **Dylan** (copied) will be producing it with me.



I'm writing to share three important next steps:

### 1) Event agenda

I'm attaching the event agenda. Please read it so we're all familiar with the format. It'll be very straightforward: **Frances** will interview **Nolan** about *Arbitrary Lines* for about 40-50 mins, and then we'll take questions from the audience for about 15-20 mins.

Please note: the times on the agenda are not meant to be exact...just a general roadmap.

### 2) Arrival at Central Library

On March 15, **please aim to arrive at the [Central Library](#) by 6:15 pm** (45 mins before the event). Please meet me at the Alice MacKay Room in the Lower Level. You'll see a sign with the event poster inside the covered Atrium, at the top of the stairs that lead down to the venue.

We'll take you to a green room, so you can all connect before the event. At 6:50, I'll give us a run-through of the event, before we go on stage.

If you have any trouble or delays arriving at the library, please call me: s.15(1)(l)

If you're driving, the closest place to park is the EasyPark parkade right under the library. The entrance is on Hamilton Street.

### 3) Promotion and audience management

The event is sold out, with lots of people on the waitlist. The event capacity will be 220 seats, with very little standing room.

If people contact you about extra spots, please encourage them to [join the waitlist](#). The day before the event, we send an automated message to registrants, which usually leads to about 20% of people letting go of their spots. So we'll be able to assign those spots to people on the waitlist.

We ask that you please don't encourage people to show up without registration, to avoid having to turn people away. We oversold the event based on our no-shows data from past events, and are already accounting for a certain portion of the audience to be walk-ins in this calculation.

Also, we will be recording the event and uploading that recording to the VPL's YouTube [channel](#), for people who can't attend. We do not have the capacity to livestream this event, in case people ask you.

--

That's all I got for now. Let me know if I can clarify anything. And have a safe flight, Nolan!

See you all next Wednesday **March 15 at (or before) 6:15 pm PT.**

P.S. Nolan, if you've never been to this library, I encourage you (and your hosts Charles

and Brendan) to arrive early and give yourselves a nice walking tour of the building, especially Level 8 and the [rooftop garden](#) on Level 9!

**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library

VPL on [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

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**From:** ["Library Square Conf Centre Rooms"](#) <rooms@vpl.ca>  
**To:** ["Jorge Amigo"](#) <Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca>  
**CC:** ["Dylan Schroeder"](#) <Dylan.Schroeder@vpl.ca>  
**Date:** 3/2/2023 5:32:26 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Room Setup for #20298, Mar 15 2023, "Nolan Gray: Arbitrary Lines"

---

Hi Jorge,  
Sounds good, we'll set the Alice up for Max lecture on March 15.  
Regards,  
Louis

Library Square Conference Centre @ Vancouver Public Library  
350 West Georgia St., Office: Level 7  
Vancouver, BC Canada V6B 6B1

Manager: Polly Argo  
Assistants: Louis Deschner / Tina Korki / Carmen Sit / Judy Dang  
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**From:** Jorge Amigo  
**Sent:** March 2, 2023 2:33 PM  
**To:** Library Square Conf Centre Rooms  
**Cc:** Dylan Schroeder  
**Subject:** Re: Room Setup for #20298, Mar 15 2023, "Nolan Gray: Arbitrary Lines"  
Hi Louis, thanks for sending this! (I'm copying our new colleague Dylan, so he can see how this confirmation process works)  
Yes, I have one main update: it's going to be a sold out event. So let's go with the max chairs setup\* of 220 chairs, please.  
**Jorge Amigo** (he/him)  
Head of Cultural Programming  
Vancouver Public Library  
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**From:** Library Square Conf Centre Rooms  
**Sent:** March 2, 2023 12:57 PM  
**To:** Jorge Amigo  
**Subject:** Room Setup for #20298, Mar 15 2023, "Nolan Gray: Arbitrary Lines"  
Hello Jorge,

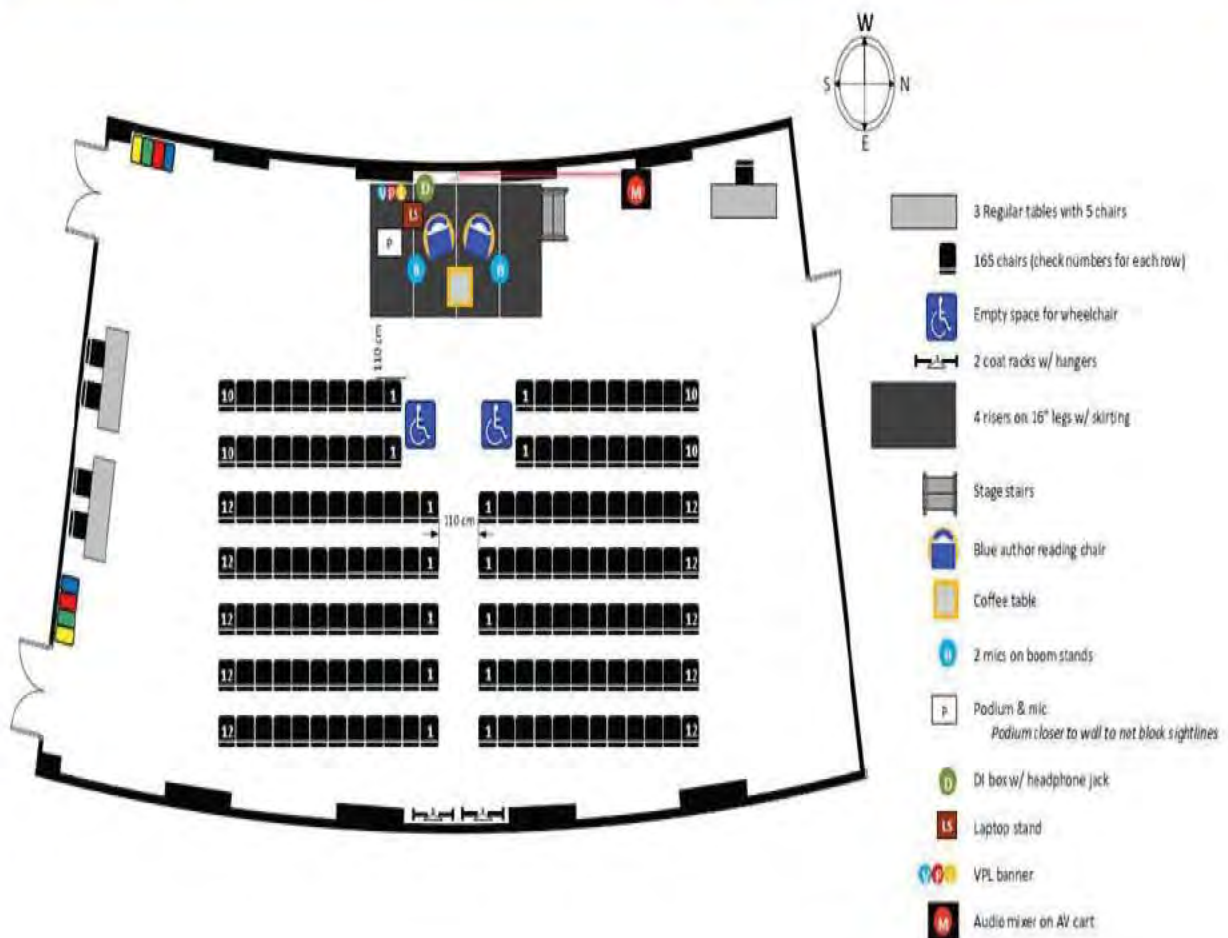
Please review the description of your room setup. Let me know if you need any changes or additions.

Location: **ALICE MACKAY**  
Date: Wednesday, March 15, 2023  
From/To: 3:00 PM-9:00 PM  
Setup Notes: Please set up as per PLG Lecture for 160 diagram attached on p. \_\_\_\_:

ASM: Jorge Amigo

Alice MacKay Room

PLG Lecture for 160



Regards,  
Louis

Regards,  
Louis

Library Square Conference Centre @ Vancouver Public Library  
350 West Georgia St., Office: Level 7



Vancouver, BC Canada V6B 6B1

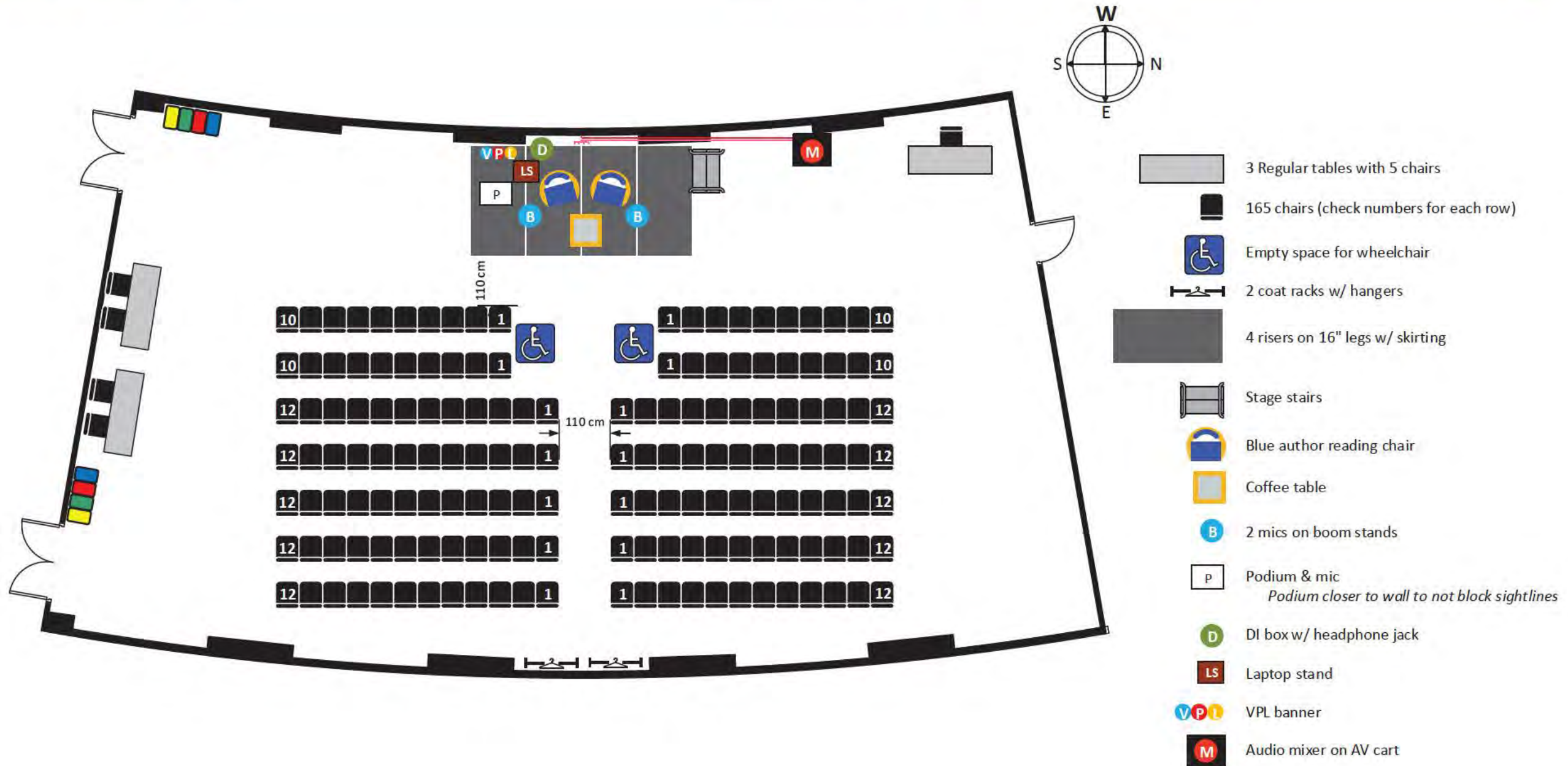
Manager: Polly Argo

Assistants: Louis Deschner / Tina Korki / Carmen Sit / Judy Dang

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To book a rental room, please fill out our [application form](#).

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**From:** ["Library Square Conf Centre Rooms" <rooms@vpl.ca>](mailto:rooms@vpl.ca)  
**To:** ["Jorge Amigo" <Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca>](mailto:Jorge.Amigo@vpl.ca)  
**CC:** [Programs <programs@vpl.ca>](mailto:programs@vpl.ca)  
**Date:** 1/18/2023 1:17:55 PM  
**Subject:** VPL Space Confirmation #20298 - Nolan Gray - Mar 15, 2023  
**Attachments:** 20298 - Nolan Gray - Mar 15, 2023.pdf

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Hello Jorge,  
Attached is your confirmation. Please look it over carefully, and let us know if any changes are needed.  
We will contact you in the week before your event to confirm the set up details.  
Regards,  
Carmen

Library Square Conference Centre @ Vancouver Public Library  
350 West Georgia St., Office: Level 7  
Vancouver, BC Canada V6B 6B1

Manager: Polly Argo  
Assistants: Louis Deschner / Tina Korki / Carmen Sit  
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## Library Square Conference Centre

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350 West Georgia  
Office: Level 7  
Vancouver, BC  
Canada V6B 6B1

Tel 604-331-3823  
Email [rooms@vpl.ca](mailto:rooms@vpl.ca)

[www.vpl.ca/rentals](http://www.vpl.ca/rentals)

## VPL Space Confirmation # 20298

Requested By:

Printed Date: 18-Jan-23

VPL - Programming & Learning

Contact: Amigo, Jorge

Phone: 604-499-5903

The Vancouver Public Library hereby confirms your arrangements to use the facilities listed below on the stated date(s) and time(s) along with requested equipment and/or services.

### BOOKING DETAILS

15-Mar-23 Wednesday

Booked Time: 3:00 PM-9:00 PM

ALICE MACKAY

Attendance

Capacity

Event Title: Nolan Gray: Arbitrary Lines

120

300

#### Setup Description:

\*CONFIRM\* Please set up:

- Author reading for 120
- 4 risers on 16" legs w/ skirting
- Podium+mic on stage
- 2 chairs on stage with table, mic stands
- book signing tables
- mixer cart next to stage

LSCC NOTE: Jorge writes "This event will require the same setup as our mid-sized author events this November 2022." - Jan 18

ASM: Jorge Amigo

#### During the above booking(s) you have indicated:

Food will be served:	No
Liquor will be served:	No
Open to the Public:	Yes
Admittance Fee:	\$0.00

Polly Argo,  
Coordinator