

## = Nation Alliance Party =

The Nation Alliance Party was a minor political party in British Columbia , Canada . While the party was registered with Elections BC as a provincial party , it also participated in the 2008 federal election , the 2008 municipal election , as well as the 2009 provincial election . The party sought to promote multiculturalism , advocate for rights of ethnic minorities and recent immigrants focusing on employment access , security , health care , education and overall rights and status . It was an advocacy party that sought to politically empower and enable those who do not speak English as a first language to participate in politics .

Led by Wei Ping Chen , the party was founded in June 2007 . Chen stood for election in Richmond in the October 2008 federal election , and for mayor of Richmond , British Columbia in the November 2008 municipal election , losing both times . In the May 2009 provincial election the party nominated two candidates , one in Richmond Centre and the other in Richmond East , neither of whom were elected but combined for 818 total votes .

## = = Background = =

The Nation Alliance Party was founded in June 2007 by four people : realtor Wei Ping Chen of Delta , renovator Steven Lian from Surrey , tourism guide Randy Liu from Burnaby , and Simon Fraser University student Locan Wang . Party leader Wei Ping Chen had immigrated to Canada from Beijing , via Australia . He witnessed the challenges that recent immigrants faced once in a new country , and how uninvolved they were in politics . Contrasted to his experience in China , Wei Ping Chen was impressed with the political freedoms available in Canada and felt motivated to start a political party . He felt that political campaigns oriented towards recent immigrants and people whose first language is not English , would empower those communities to become more politically active .

Wei Ping Chen was a candidate in the October 2008 federal election in the Richmond electoral district . However , because the party was not registered with Elections Canada , he ran as an independent . He came in fifth place , with 397 votes ( 0 @. @ 93 % ) , losing to the Conservative Party 's Alice Wong .

In November 2008 , Nation Alliance Party members nominated candidates for the municipal election in Richmond . Wei Ping Chen challenged incumbent Malcolm Brodie for the mayoral position and Kang Chen , Yang Dai , Jiajian Cheung , Jian Liu , and Bai Chen were nominated for councillor positions . Like the federal campaign , they were classified as independents . The latest census at the time reported that 50 % of Richmond 's population was of Chinese descent and their campaign highlighted the language barrier faced by those who did not speak English , for example tax notices were only available in English . They participated in the all @- @ candidate forums that were translated in Cantonese and Mandarin . None of its candidates were elected with Wei Ping Chen receiving 7 % of the vote .

## = = Political positions = =

The Nation Alliance Party was guided by a support for multiculturalism . Specifically , the party sought to increase translation services for people who could not read or speak English or people whose first language is not English , equivalency of academic standards , more supportive immigration services that assist transition into Canadian society , and better working conditions for recent immigrants and migrant labourers .

While the party did not maintain a full slate of policy positions , its candidates advocated for increasing the number of police in Richmond , especially along the SkyTrain route , protection of green spaces , support for affordable housing , and trade missions with China . They were generally in favour of lower taxes but with more spending on senior services and education . In the 2009 provincial election they campaigned against the carbon tax which the governing BC Liberal Party had implemented the previous year .

## == Election results ==

In the 2009 provincial election , the party nominated candidates in two ridings . Wei Ping Chen stood in the Richmond East riding but got only 419 votes ( 2 @. @ 27 % ) , coming in last place , losing to BC Liberal Linda Reid . In Richmond Centre , the Nation Alliance Party candidate was Kang Chen . He came in last with 399 votes ( 2 @. @ 33 % ) , losing to BC Liberal Rob Howard . The party de @-@ registered with Elections BC in May 2012 , one year prior to the next election , scheduled for May 2013 .

## == Finances ==

In 2009 provincial election both candidates only reported \$ 250 worth of expenditures to Elections BC . In that same election the party claimed \$ 318 in general election expenditures .