7. FUTURE WORK/NEXT STEPS

This study will help guide the next stage in the development of an MVCIMP IMS. Specifically, this involves turning:

- the survey results (outlined in Section 4.1);
- the analysis of the survey results (outlined in section 4.2);
- the description of the Options (outlined in Sections 6.2 through 6.4); and
- the analysis of the Options (outlined in Section 6.5)

into a Project Implementation Plan.

The Project Implementation Plan would develop the challenges (raised in Section 4.2) and the description of the options (raised in Sections 6.2 - 6.4) into more concrete objectives/specifics. For example, one of the challenges raised was that additional resources were required at the node level so as to allow the nodes to participate more effectively in an MVCIMP IMS. A more detailed analysis – through onsite visits and interviews – would allow for clarification of just what human/technical/financial resources are required, and how they would be implemented. This would also validate the needs of nodes, and provide justification so that project resources are used wisely.

Additionally, the current description of the options provides for hosting/housing the territorial Hub in one of the Government of Canada departments (especially by DIAND, DFO, and Environment Canada) or the environmental boards (including the MVEIRB, MVLWB and the co-management boards). A more detailed analysis – through onsite visits and interviews – would allow for clarification of just who should be the host of the territorial Hub.

Both the clarification of what types of additional resources are required and who would host the territorial Hub would be addressed within the Project Implementation Plan.

8. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This survey of the major stakeholders of CIM information in the Mackenzie Valley has highlighted a number of positive circumstances which could contribute to the successful development of an MVCIMP IMS:

- a strong belief in the importance of the project;
- the emergence of possible locations for the territorial Hub (e.g. Yellowknife and/or Inuvik);

- the emergence of possible host organizations locations for the territorial Hub such as the Government of Canada (especially DIAND, DFO and Environment Canada) and the environmental boards (the MVEIRB, MVLWB and the co-management boards);

- the high technical capacity of the potential nodes to participate in the project;

- a high willingness on the part of the potential nodes to share CIM information; and

- the emergence of possible standards for GIS (ArcView) and database (Access) software.

However, the survey has also indicated that a number of important issues must be addressed before an MVCIMP IMS could successfully be developed:

- the current lack of metadata associated with the majority of CIM information;

- the low capacity of the potential nodes to share their CIM information;

- most of the CIM information at the nodes is not currently Internet ready;

- the need for additional resources (specifically human and financial) at the node level; and

- some systemic/structural issues regarding data sharing need to be overcome.

It is recommended that Option 1 (a Centralized Hub – located in Yellowknife) be adopted as the preferred model for the development of an MVCIMP IMS. The details of how that option would be turned into reality would be determined in the next stage of this project (the Project Implementation Plan).