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*Minnesota Council for Quality Stakeholder Update*  
*December, 2001*  
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1. Holiday Greetings from MCQ

We would like to take this opportunity to wish our stakeholders, Evaluators, volunteers, and members a joyous holiday season and a very happy new year. Thank you all for your help and support this past year. May your holiday season be a happy and fulfilling one!

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2. The Council's Future Continues to Take Shape

Progress continues on our market research. So far, we have conducted two focus groups: one with Evaluators and one with organizations that have done -- or are considering doing an -- assessment. At least two other focus groups will be conducted next month, one with members and one with educators. These discussions are generating tremendous dialogue and are helping us to identify key requirements of our customers and stakeholders. We will summarize some of the key themes in the next newsletter; if you are interested in the full results, please drop us an email.

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3. Upcoming Evaluator Training

Among the many exciting changes we will be making for the 2002 Award cycle, we will be holding two different sessions of Evaluator training. This will allow both our evaluators and our participant organizations more flexibility within the year. Mark your calendar – the dates for this year's Evaluator and Criteria training are as follows:

Criteria Training for New Evaluators  
Friday, March 1, 2002

Evaluator Training  
Tuesday - Thursday, April 2-4, 2002

Criteria Training for New Evaluators (second session)

Friday, September 6, 2002

Evaluator Training (second session)  
Tuesday - Thursday, October 8-10, 2002

Details on applying for next year's process will be forthcoming in January.

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#### 4. Evaluators: Need ASQ Recertification?

We sincerely apologize to all evaluators who have been awaiting notification from the Council that our CEUs have come in from the Department of Children, Families, and Learning. Due to a processing mishap, we do not have CEUs for our 2001 Evaluator training dates. We can, however, make up certificates of completion that should satisfy ASQ. If you need such a certificate, please contact the Council at [MC4Quality@aol.com](mailto:MC4Quality@aol.com). Again, we apologize for the delay.